

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LIV.]

HONGKONG, MONDAY, 30TH DECEMBER, 1901.

No. 27

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BIRTHS.

On the 8th December, at Tientsin, the wife of WM. A. HARDING, of a son.

On the 8th December, the wife of EVAN MATHEWS, of the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Tongshan, of a daughter.

On the 15th December, at Shanghai, the wife of A. W. MAITLAND, of a daughter.

On the 16th December, at Shanghai, the wife of N. KRELL, of a son.

On the 17th December, at 6, Soochow Road, Shanghai, the wife of R. H. ELIAS, of a son.

On the 20th December, at Ranfurly, Conduit Road, Hongkong, the wife of F. A. WENDT, of a daughter.

On the 20th December, at Soochow, the wife of the Rev. W. B. NANCE, of a son.

On the 21st December, at Hockliffe, Guildford, the wife of EDWARD A. IRVING, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 7th December, at St. George's Church, Penang, by the Rev. F. W. Haines, B.A., Colonial Chaplain, WILLIAM STUART, DUNN, Assistant Municipal Engineer, Penang, to LIZZIE (Dot), third daughter of Capt. E. Bradbery, Harbour Master, Penang.

On the 16th December, at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, by the Rev. W. H. C. Dunkerley, M.A., Colonial Chaplain, EDWARD ARTHUR COOK, of Ipoh, son of the late WILLIAM HENRY COOK, London, to MINNIE JANE, second daughter of THOMAS WREFFORD, Leamington, Spal.

On the 16th December, at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, by the Rev. W. H. C. Dunkerley, Colonial Chaplain, CHARLES BASIL WHITEHEAD, son of JAMES NICHOLAS WHITEHEAD, of Torquay, Devon, to ETHEL MAUD, only daughter of Col. J. A. LITTLE, late Consulting Engineer, Indian Staff Corps.

DEATH.

On the 16th November, at Lahad Datu Estate, B. N. Borneo, L. OCTAVE JOURDIN, of fever.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 22nd November arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Bengal*, on the 21st December (29 days); the American mail of the 23rd November arrived per P. M. steamer *China*, on the 22nd December (29 days); and the Canadian mail of the 2nd November arrived, per C. P. R. steamer *Empress of China*, on the 25th December (22 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Marquis Ito arrived in London on the 24th instant.

The French loan against the security of the Chinese indemnity was covered no less than 24 times.

The seat of civil and military government of Eastern Siberia and Northern Manchuria has been transferred from Habarovsk to Harbin.

An Italian Consulate, says a Korean telegram, will be established at Seoul. The Italian Consul, who arrived there recently, waited upon the Korean Emperor on the 14th inst.

A delegation representing American agricultural and industrial experts has arrived at Vladivostok in order to make studies with regard to the establishment of farms and the opening up of Siberia.

Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, British Claims Commissioner, arrived at Shanghai on the 18th inst. from the North, where his exertions have been crowned with conspicuous success and have resulted in general satisfaction. He has now to undertake the settlement of British claims at Shanghai and the Yangtze ports.

Dr. Morrison, telegraphing to the *Times* from Hankow last month, said:—I desire to record a question frequently addressed to me here. The British Government appears to be unaware that its Bluebooks are habitually read to the Viceroys by translators. Does the Government consider that the publication of confidential communications from friendly officials is calculated to promote frank intercourse? The unenlightened Chinese, ignorant of the traditional procedure of the Foreign Office, regard it as simply a breach of faith.

Besides the 10,000 Manchu troops, including the Imperial Guards, which accompany the Court on the return journey towards Peking, the *N.-C. Daily News* says that a private Kaifeng telegram of the 14th instant states that the Army Corps under the octogenarian, Marshal Sung Ch'ing, numbering some 23,000 men of all arms, will march about a mile's distance on the right flank of the Imperial cortège, and the division of General Hsia Yü-hsiu, about 8,000 strong, will guard the progress of the Imperial Court on the left flank, keeping a regular distance en route from the vicinity of the Imperial cortège.

Governor Tuan Fang, of Hupeh, is stated to have been appointed to Shantung in succession to Governor Chang, who has had difficulties with the German authorities.

A special telegram to the *N.-C. Daily News*, dated Yentsinhsien, Honan, 16th December, says:—"Their Majesties arrived from Hsintien yesterday afternoon (15th) at 5.30 o'clock, precisely, and remained here overnight. This morning there was heavy fog, and at 10 o'clock a gale arose which towards night has not yet ceased. The cold is severe; similar to the weather experienced on the 13th—the day before the departure from Kaifeng. Yesterday's weather however was quite clear and mild, which was most fortunate for their Majesties' comfort." The Court arrived at Chihhsien, Honan, on the afternoon of the 18th inst., from Weihsifu, and on the 25th reached Shengtefu. Yuan Shikai is reported to have advised the Empress Dowager to proceed no further than Paotingfu until the Powers hand over Tientsin—a proceeding on the part of the Viceroy ill calculated to inspire confidence in him.

A Peking telegram at Christmastide reported that the Chinese plenipotentiaries object to four terms of the Manchurian Convention. Firstly, they cannot accept Russia's demands for the exclusive training of the Chinese troops, the limitation of the numbers of the Chinese garrison of Manchuria, and the appointment of a Russian commander. Secondly, they state that Russia must evacuate Manchuria before three years' time. Thirdly, China cannot agree not to open any mines in Manchuria without Russian consent and partnership, or to employ solely Russian capital. Fourthly, if Russia returns the Newchwang railway to China, the latter cannot agree not to open branches without Russian consent and partnership, or to employ solely Russian capital. The plenipotentiaries state that they will forthwith discuss the other terms of the Convention, and in the meanwhile they beg M. Lessar, the Russian Minister at Peking, to give them an answer on the above four points.

The *N.-C. Daily News* among its "Notes on Native Affairs" says:—The report that the Empress Dowager has the intention of appointing P'u Lun, Prince of the 4th Order, as Heir Apparent upon her arrival at Peking would appear to be premature, and as a matter of fact so contrary to the usual policy of that shrewd and strong-minded old lady that the very announcement would seem to contradict itself. In other words, Prince P'u Lun is twenty-seven years old, having been born in 1874; and as the Empress Dowager's ambition is to get hold of some youthful member of the Imperial Clan—the younger the better—having no intention yet of relinquishing what she has, it seems improbable that she would even dream of putting one who has attained the age of manhood, possessing independence of mind and holding opinions of his own, in a position which could easily interfere with her own policy and work destruction to the party supporting her if such an Heir-Apparent had the desire to do so. It is true that Prince P'u Lun, as the first character of his name designates, belongs to a junior branch to that of either the present Emperor or the late Emperor Tung Chih, who is in want of an heir, but "circumstances alter cases" and the circumstance of P'u Lun's age must alter his case in the opinion of the Empress Dowager.

ANTI-DYNASTIC TROUBLE IN HONAN.

(Daily Press, 24th December.)

The Peking correspondent of the *Times* wrote from Hankow at the beginning of November that the Yangtze Valley was at present peaceful and the country had resumed its normal condition. Appearances undoubtedly tended to show this, and it cannot be said that there have been any outward signs of disturbance since the time when Dr. MORRISON wrote. Nevertheless, news now reaches us from Shanghai of the discovery of an extensive anti-dynastic conspiracy, one of whose objects was to attack the Imperial party on its way from Kaifeng to Peking. It will be remembered that on the 20th November, during the celebration of the Empress Dowager's birthday at Kaifeng, an unsuccessful attempt was made to destroy the Palaces and their inmates by fire. After the failure of this attempt, some of the incendiaries (the number of captures is uncertain) were arrested by the Honan provincial officials, and torture was at once applied with a view of extorting confession. One of the conspirators, aged eighteen years only, at last broke down and amid the curses of his comrades related the plot. To this "confession" all were forced to append their signatures. According to the account received by the *North China Daily News* one part of this confession declared that a numerous body of men had been specially detailed to destroy the Chenting-Peking Railway—if all else had failed—and take up some of the rails as the Imperial train came on, whilst other bands of armed men had been ordered to fire at the Imperial train wherever chance offered on the way. In the mean time, it appears, a search made in the house where two of the men were captured revealed a quantity of correspondence between members of the society, and also a number of detailed reports on the strength of the garrisons of almost every walled city in the Empire, their capability of resistance, the character of the men and their officers, etc. The most important "find" of the occasion, in the eyes of the mandarins, our Shanghai contemporary's information states, was some dozen and a-half volumes containing the names of members of the two secret societies concerned in the projected rebellion against the Manchu dynasty, namely the *Kolao Hui* and the *Tatuo Hui*. The immediate consequence of these alleged revelations has been that Viceroy YUAN SHIKAI has taken very prompt measures to guard the railway line from Chenting to Peking with encampments of all his available troops, on both sides of the line along its whole extent, at the same time ordering mounted troops to scour the whole countryside within fifteen li on either side, scatter any party of men, exceeding two or three in number, and arrest any suspicious characters in sight at the time of the passing of the Imperial train. These preparations by YUAN SHIKAI are calculated to be fully adequate to meet any threatened danger on the journey, and meanwhile there is fortunately provided another argument for the Court to hasten to the shelter of the walls of Peking. Though it is quite possible that the magnitude of the conspiracy has been much exaggerated, no doubt seems to be entertained that the setting fire to the Palaces at Kaifeng was not meant to be the only attack on the Imperial family. At first it was said that the Empress Dowager was the object of the attempt, but the Chinese authorities evidently hold it to extend to the destruction of the reigning dynasty. Previous to the reception of news of the plot the report

current in Chinese official circles in Shanghai was that the Empress Dowager (and presumably the Emperor KWANG HSU with her) would make a ten day's stop at Chenting and a further halt of a fortnight at Paoting-fu. It may now be hoped that the scare over the Kaifeng discoveries may lead to an abandonment of this dilatory programme and an advance of the Imperial party with all possible speed to the capital.

THE EMPRESS DOWAGER AND HER FRIENDS.

(Daily Press, 27th December.)

Although the Dowager TZE'HI has so far yielded to pressure as to depose her intended successor and protégé PU CHUN, the process of repentance in the minds of the Emperor's subjects has by no means gone far enough. The assumption of the airs and prerogatives of royalty on the part of this low-born lady would be farcical were they not indicative that there is still mischief in the air. She still clings to her discredited favourites, YUNG LU, LU CHUAN-LIN, and the pretended eunuch, the infamous LI LIEN-YIN. It is no secret that YUNG LU is as accessible to the charms of sycee as ever was the departed LI HUNG-CHANG; and there is equally little reason to disbelieve that there is no music so sweet to the Dowager's ears as the clink of silver, and that there is no quarter too degraded for her to accept it thence as a gift. Deprived of LI, Prince CHING has been desirous as far as lay in his power of undoing the evil work of his late colleague, but finds it difficult in the face of the Dowager and her confidant YUNG LU: in fact there is every reason to believe that, in the secret councils of the two, the death of the Prince was already determined on; and it was only the personal pluck of Prince CHING, and the fear of exciting an open revolution, that determined them to permit his return to Peking. His new colleague is a man of a different stamp; through his official life WANG WEN-SHAO has been marked as a man who from a Chinese point of view has been distinctly honest. He did not, when reform was in the wind, pander to the new fad, and has not, now that reactionary methods are in vogue, turned face about. With all this, WANG is old and the infirmities of age have distinctly told on him, so that he has not the strength or energy to resist what he knows to be inadvisable. In such a case the retention about the person of the Dowager of two such individuals as YUNG LU and LI LIEN-YIN cannot but be productive of evil to the state. The Dowager herself is probably well aware that she has proved a failure, and would be willing to permit herself to fade gradually out of active interference with affairs of state, so long as in outward show her dignity is not assailed; and such seems to be the view of the Emperor himself, who evidently is not in favour of proceeding to extremities. YUNG LU and LI LIEN-YIN, rendered cowards by the force of that conscience they have for so long repressed, instinctively are doing their best to prevent such a solution of the difficulty, and the Dowager cut off from wholesome advice listens to their flatteries. So affairs, which a few weeks ago were beginning to brighten, are thrown back into their old groove. Fortunately public opinion in China generally is beginning to make itself felt in Peking. The Dowager has frequently attempted to suppress the native Press, but it, more or less supported by the provincial governments, has hitherto shown itself independent of Peking and has not feared to tell disagreeable truths. With a moderation worthy of imitation by

the Press in nations pretending to a higher civilisation it has never exceeded the limits of fair and respectful comment; and at the worst of time has been loyal to the Emperor himself, while outspoken with regard to the intrusive government that tried to supersede him. This good work is evidently beginning to bear fruit, but as long as these black sheep block all the avenues of approach comparatively little is to be hoped for. Let us, however, trust that at last the Emperor, feeling himself supported by his subjects generally, will pluck up heart of grace sufficient to clear the precincts of the Palace from the unworthy crowd who during the Regency succeeded in monopolising the right of entrance.

PIRACY IN THE CANTON DELTA.

(Daily Press, 28th December.)

It is with lively satisfaction we hear from Canton that the suggestions thrown out in this column on the 11th instant with regard to the suppression of piracy in the Delta have borne some good fruit. Vice-Admiral Sir CYPRIAN BRIDGE, who has been up to Canton, saw His Excellency the Viceroy when there and took the opportunity to urge upon that official the desirability of taking action in the direction suggested, and the outcome of it all is that the Viceroy has commissioned two torpedo boats as a commencement, with the intention of forming a regular flotilla for the suppression of piracy on the rivers, and has issued instructions that they are to be officered and, we believe, partly manned, by foreigners, the whole force to be placed under the direction and control of the Imperial Maritime Customs. This is a good beginning, and it should prove the inauguration of a new dispensation on the waterways of the Two Kwang. The Customs preventive service has managed to reduce smuggling to very narrow limits, and there is no reason why, under the same able direction, the hydra-heads of piracy should not be scotched. It is as much in the interests of the Imperial Revenue that piracy should be stamped out as that smuggling should be prevented, for in either case the revenue suffers. If trade becomes impossible owing to the insecurity of the waterways, the revenue falls off as materially, if not more so, as it would if smuggling went unchecked. We hear that the Customs officials at Canton, though saddled with a new responsibility and additional work, are much gratified to find that at last a workable scheme has been sanctioned for the purpose of restoring order to the rich districts watered by the Canton and West Rivers and their affluents. The much tried inhabitants of this wide region will also rejoice when they see the pirates hunted from the rivers, and these great highways rendered safe for the producer and the trader. The effect of security would soon be felt in the market both for imports and exports, while the passenger traffic would also receive an important stimulus. Nor would the effect be confined to the immediate vicinity of the waterways. The capture and dispersal of these banditti would also prove a relief to the other districts of the Two Kwang, as the same bands that swoop down upon the river craft also attack the villages and small towns further inland during intervals when the official quest has waxed a little warmer on the rivers than usual. The Customs direction of the campaign against piracy will, we doubt not, be marked by system and method. They will strike boldly, and when and where least expected. Hitherto spies have kept the brigands well

informed as to the time and manner of attack of a foreign gunboat, with the result that they have frequently got clear away. There will be less chance of this with the Customs in command, for they have their own intelligence officers at work, who will be constantly on the *qui vive*. It is to be hoped that the Customs will have a perfectly free hand in the matter, and not be hampered by the want of suitable boats. The question of expense should not be greatly considered in the formation of this force. It is so important that the Chinese Government can well afford to pay highly for the restoration of order in the Kwang provinces.

THE COOLIE QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 28th December.)

With great regret we learn that, at a meeting of the Executive Council held just before Christmas, it was decided not to adopt the recommendations contained in the Report of the Commission appointed on the 28th August last to enquire into the question of the existing difficulty of procuring and retaining reliable chair and jinricksha coolies for private chairs and jinrickshas. What passed on the occasion we are, of course, unable to say, but the Council was divided on the question, some members being strongly in favour of making a trial of registration on the lines suggested by the Commission, while the majority urged that it would be impracticable or useless. The real truth probably is that the Chinese view of the matter has prevailed, and it has been decided, by the persons who are not suffering from the evils it was sought to remedy, to leave those evils without a remedy rather than to run the risk of hurting the feelings of the coolie by asking him to be photographed and registered. The community will be disappointed at this outcome of an honest attempt to find a remedy for an admitted evil, one under which they have groaned for years. The members of the Commission may perchance wonder why they were ever appointed if it was not intended to do anything. The taxpayers may ask, to what end was all the expense of putting into type a bulky book of proceedings if the matter was to end in smoke. The coolies, who will in due course hear of the decision to allow them still to exercise their own sweet will, will laugh in their sleeves at the weakness and folly of the Government, and will be encouraged to make further demands upon and to wax more insolent to their employers. The difficulty of obtaining any guarantee for the respectability and honesty of servants will grow more and more serious, and the troubles and cost of house-keeping will go on increasing. What with the rise in rentals and wages of domestics, the higher cost of all imported articles, whether of food or clothing, and the continuing decline in exchange, it will soon be impossible for quite a large section of the British and foreign community to exist on the rates of pay now given. Employers, on the other hand, find it extremely difficult to advance the rates of pay owing to the keenness of competition in trade which has brought down the margin of profits to a perilously low point. Moreover, business is depressed all over China and its effects are felt in every rank of life in this Colony. Yet the Government, for fear of hurting the feelings of the Chinese coolie, is afraid to put into operation a simple measure for the regulation of a troublesome class of domestics, who render the most unwilling service for very high rates of pay, and frequently, for want of

registration and control, turn out dishonest rogues. It cannot be too forcibly urged, both on the Government and on those who for sentimental or other occult reasons pamper the Chinese, that the Chinese working classes do not come here for the benefit of their health: they come because they can secure a high wage for light work—light as compared with the service they would have to give in China—and they are not likely to throw up their good livelihood because they are asked to submit to a wholesome and reasonable regulation, which would moreover give them a status and bar out the ineligible and unworthy. The fear that the coolies would revolt is both pusillanimous and cannot be too strongly deprecated. It is the duty of the Government to legislate for the greatest good of the greatest number, and this is a fact that seems to have been absent from consideration in the discussion on the subject at issue. We can only hope in the interests of the community that the matter will be reconsidered, and a courageous decision taken. Otherwise the arguments in favour of municipal self-government will grow apace.

CHARGES OF MISSIONARY INTERFERENCE.

(Daily Press, 21st December.)

Certain remarks from our Swatow correspondent's letter which appeared in our issue of the 27th November, on the subject of "missionary interference" in that locality, were quoted on the 4th instant by the *North China Daily News*, which added that stories like this showed how necessary it was that the Roman Catholic bishops should insist on the priests abstaining from interfering, on *ex parte* complaints, in matters with which religion has no concern. Immediately after the reproduction of our correspondent's story, our Shanghai contemporary received "from a valued correspondent" a protest, in the name of the Roman Catholic clergy, against the story itself and against the general statement that the Roman Catholic clergy "will always support their adepts, even when evidently wrong, while the Protestant missionaries never interfere in the worldly concerns of their co-religionists." The *Daily News* rejoins:—"We, of course, are in no way responsible for the story, which we stated was extracted from a Hongkong paper, and our correspondent allowed that, being so far from the scene of the events, he was not in a position to deny its truth, though he felt sure it was exaggerated. As for the general statement, it is widely believed that the Protestant missionaries are more careful than their Catholic colleagues to avoid mixing themselves up in secular matters and in litigation, and the general testimony of Chinese officials confirms this belief." The Shanghai paper then goes on to point out that in our issue of the 7th instant there appears the conclusion of the story, in which it is recorded that, as the result of the Roman Catholic missionaries' interference in a dispute rising out of a collision between two sampans, a non-Christian boatman was only released from prison after his relatives and the boatmen's guild conjointly had paid \$300 compensation into the coffers of the Roman Catholic body.

It is obviously unwise, as well as unjust, for any foreign newspaper in China to circulate stories to the detriment of missions without a reasonable assurance of their genuineness, and we are convinced that there is not a journal which would so act. But it is absolutely against the best interests of the missionary body as a whole and the general reputation of foreigners in China to

hush up every abuse which is caused by over-zealous propagandists. Such abuses seriously affect foreign prestige among the natives, and, as it is by giving them publicity alone that they can be checked, the only honourable course open to those who are interested in the intercourse between China and the outside world is to call attention to them as they occur. The remedy for those who are grieved at statements made in print about the occasional misdoings of the missionaries is not to contradict them without the slightest knowledge of the actual facts, but to disprove them, if possible, from investigations on the spot. In the case of the present story, we have not the slightest reason to doubt our correspondent's *bona-fides*, nor has any contradiction of his statement come from anyone who has a local acquaintance with the circumstances of the affair. This does not of course prove the tale true, but it certainly renders it unwise for an indiscriminating champion of missions to reject it because it does not please him. If the charge is to be met, it must be met in a very different fashion.

On the question whether one section of the missionary body working in China is more given to unnecessary interference in secular affairs than another we do not wish to dwell here. There can be no doubt that what our Shanghai contemporary says on the matter, in the passage quoted above, is substantially correct. A leading article in a recent number of the *Times* discusses the same question and comes to the same conclusion. The London paper says:—"In this respect" [i.e. of interference in affairs] "a distinction must, we believe, be established between the missionaries of the different Protestant denominations and those of the Roman Catholic Church." The *Times* continues:—"The claims set up by France, and more recently by Germany as far as Shantung is concerned, to exercise a peculiar protectorate over Roman Catholic missionaries, and indirectly even over native Roman Catholics, and the methods by which that protectorate has in certain cases been exercised, must necessarily give some colour to the charge that, under the cloak of religious propaganda, political objects have not infrequently been pursued and achieved." To a certain extent, the Roman Catholic missionaries suffer from a too careful protection by the military arm. In cases like that described by our Swatow correspondent, however, this question is not involved, and it can only be deemed highly regrettable that such incidents of uncalled-for interference by the missionaries themselves in the entirely non-religious affairs of their converts should be so comparatively frequent.

The *N.-C. Daily News* says:—"Our Wuchang correspondent is well within the truth in saying that great sympathy will be felt with H.E. Chang Chih-tung in the melancholy death of his grandson, of whom he was justly proud, just as the young man was returning home. He was an extremely smart young fellow, very bright and intelligent. When he arrived at Shanghai some two years ago on his way to Japan, he was met at the wharf by the Shanghai officials, who were scandalised at his appearing in a semi-Western military uniform, instead of the regulation long silk coat, official hat, etc. He said that he meant to be a soldier, and therefore he had no use for the full dress of a Chinese official, in which it was impossible to move about. With his native intelligence, and the prestige of his birth he bade fair to be of great value to his country, and his premature death just as his education was completed is very greatly to be regretted."

QUESTIONS FOR THE U.S. CONGRESS.

(Daily Press, 25th December.)

The next meeting of the Congress of the United States is likely to be an important one in the history of the country. For some sixteen years the position of the three constituents of the somewhat complicated executive of the United States has been in a state of chronic strain. For the most part the Senate and the House have been in some vital point opposed, and between them the President has had to pick his steps warily, often to meet with a slap in the face from one or other, which in a constitution not so exactly balanced as that of the States would have rendered him utterly powerless, or compelled him to retire from office. At other times the President himself has been in open and acknowledged disaccord with both his houses; and it was only by a sort of mutual compromise that a *modus vivendi* was at last found, and the business of the country prevented from coming to a deadlock. It was only last year that the Senate gave the President such an ugly knock-down blow in the rejection of the HAY-PAUNCEFOTE treaty that no government not strong in the confidence of the country could have stood the shock. In the present Congress, under the new President, the skies look clearer, although an abortive attempt was made by a few less far-sighted members of the Senate to reopen the contest. But this is not the only question of importance to the world at large to occupy the attention of both sections of Congress. Notwithstanding the victory of the late President McKINLEY over his opponent BRYAN on the silver question, and the desire of the moneyed classes of the country that the issue should be fixed once and for all time by the demonetisation of silver, McKINLEY was never in sufficient touch with Congress to have an act passed to that effect. Practically, and with the tacit consent of the country, the sole standard has become the gold dollar, but until this is legally and officially recognised it is still in the power of agitators from time to time to raise the question when desirous of embarrassing the Government for the time being. It was the intention of the late President to do his utmost to have this anomaly redressed, and it is understood that Mr. ROOSEVELT is equally anxious with his predecessor to have this done; but will Mr. ROOSEVELT's influence with the Senate prove stronger than that of his predecessor? Much may yet rest upon this during the remainder of his term. It is, however, in questions of tariff that the struggle is likely to be keenest: President McKINLEY made no secret of his opinion that the system that went by his name had its disadvantages, and that already the burdens upon trade as well as the pressure on the people of the States were becoming so oppressive as to call for some modification. Mr. ROOSEVELT in his utterances on succeeding to office expressed pretty plainly ideas that implied his preference for a tariff for revenue. The fact is that at the close of the financial quarter there was so much actual specie piled up in the United States treasury—nearly five hundred and fifty million dollars—that the look-out was embarrassing and that the Treasury found it necessary to cancel its notes accordingly. Such a fact may indicate a state of high prosperity, but as withdrawing for the moment so large a mass of currency from the industries of the nation it has peculiar dangers of its own. The effect of the highly protectionist tariff

of the last ten years has been, as was intended, to cause an inflow of gold into the country; but like any other commodity, gold may become a drug, and as a drug must fall in value when brought in contact with other commodities. There is no doubt that this depreciated value of gold in the States has already proceeded to such an extent as seriously to interfere with the exporting capacity of the country. Nominally, it is true, the exports have been increasing in quantity and value, but it behoves the people of the States to understand at whose expense this has been effected. It is already becoming a subject of complaint that the great combinations fostered by the present revenue system of the States are only enabled to export in the quantities they have done during the last few years by raising the price in proportion on their home constituents. In principle this does not differ from the system of bounties practised by some of the European States—which is expressly forbidden by the constitution of the States. Though the people do not pay the amount in taxes, as do their neighbours in Europe, they do pay all the same, and it makes little or no difference whether the money comes out of their pockets as taxes, or in artificially enhanced prices for the necessities of life. That Mr. ROOSEVELT has, with many of his countrymen, come to understand this, is plain from his early speeches; but Protection is still in the United States a word to conjure by, and those whose profits depend on it are not likely to let it become a byword so long as their personal influence can prevent it. Mr. ROOSEVELT has shown himself too wise a statesman to be likely to make shipwreck of his political reputation by seeking to hasten the conflict before it is ripe, and has announced that he does not intend to propose any changes in the Tariff. This is the act of a wise man; the principle that the present excessive tariff must before long be modified is growing in the States, and any attempt at interfering with the growing plant would be in the last degree dangerous, as well as unpopular. Give a dog rope enough, and he will hang himself. Protection has had a long innings, but the indications are that the innings is coming to an end.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

SHANGHAI, 26th December, 4.10 p.m.

A Peking telegram reports that the Chinese plenipotentiaries object to four terms of the Manchurian Convention. Firstly, they cannot accept Russia's demands for the exclusive training of the Chinese troops, the limitation of the numbers of the Chinese garrison of Manchuria, and the appointment of a Russian commander. Secondly, they state that Russia must evacuate Manchuria before three years' time. Thirdly, China cannot agree not to open any mines in Manchuria without Russian consent and partnership, or to employ solely Russian capital. Fourthly, if Russia returns the Newchwang railway to China, the latter cannot agree not to open branches without Russian consent and partnership, or to employ solely Russian capital.

The plenipotentiaries state that they will forthwith discuss the other terms of the Convention, and in the meanwhile they beg M. Lessar, the Russia Minister at Peking, to give them an answer on the above four points.

SHANGHAI, 27th December, 7 p.m.

It is reported that Yuan Shikai advises the Empress Dowager to remain at Pao-tingfu until the Ministers of the Powers consent to restore Tientsin to China.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 28th inst. in the Council Chamber. Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR (Sir HENRY BLAKE, G.C.M.G.).

Major-General Sir W. GASCOIGNE, K.C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. W. M. GOODMAN, K.C. (Attorney-General).

Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. C. McI. MESSER (Acting Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon. J. THURBURN.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes (Nos. 71 to 74) and moved that they be remitted to the Finance Committee.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY submitted the Report of the Finance Committee (No. 15) and moved its adoption.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

KOWLOON WATERWORKS GRAVITATION SCHEME.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the following correspondence, and said—I may inform the Council that a telegram has been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in which he informs your Excellency that he has referred the scheme to Mr. Chatham for report.

Government House.

Hongkong, 31st October, 1901.

Sir,—In continuation of my despatch No. 325 of the 23rd of last August, I have the honour to transmit for your consideration the enclosed copy of letter from the Acting Director of Public Works, submitting a complete estimate of the cost of the new Kowloon Waterworks Gravitation Scheme, and to recommend for your approval the improved scheme, which seems absolutely necessary if a proper water supply for Kowloon is to be secured.

2. In the Estimates for 1902 a sum of \$60,000 has been inserted for this purpose, and a sum of \$100,000 has been placed in the estimates for this year: but, as the latter sum has scarcely been drawn upon, there will be available for 1902 a sum of about \$160,000.

3. Mr. Chatham estimates that a sum of \$200,000 a year will be required until the work is completed, as the Acting Director of Public Works hopes it may be in four years' time.

4. In view of the urgency of the matter, I shall be glad to learn by telegram whether you approve of the scheme now submitted.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

The Right Honourable

J. CHAMBERLAIN, M. P.,

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(Enclosure.)

Acting Director of Public Works to Colonial Secretary.

Public Works Office.

Hongkong, 24th October, 1901.

Sir,—I have the honour to report that Messrs. Denison & Ram have now, in accordance with

my request, submitted a complete estimate of the cost of the new Kowloon Waterworks Gravitation Scheme.

2. In forwarding to you their letter of the 14th instant, which contains the estimate referred to, I desire to point out the following essential points of difference between the scheme now proposed and that contained in Mr. Gibbs's original Report of the 8th January, 1900.

(i). The dam is of masonry and cement concrete as recommended by Mr. Chadwick, instead of an earthen bank with clay puddle core.

(ii). The site of the dam has been altered as proposed by Mr. Ormsby, being now located 30 feet lower in level in the bed of the valley.

(iii). The height of the dam has consequently been increased from 65 feet to 95 feet, top-water being maintained at the same level as formerly.

(iv). The capacity of the reservoir has likewise been increased from 120 million to 310 million gallons.

(v). The estimated available supply has been increased from 590,000 to 1,575,000 gallons per day.

3. Before comparing the original and present estimates, it is well that I should lay before you the figures showing the enormous increase in population which had occurred in Kowloon arising out of a development which had far exceeded all expectations, merely stating that the scheme is designed to supply the entire Peninsula, with the exception of few small straggling villages, from Kowloon City on the East to Sham Shui Po on the West, and will include these two populous places which are situated in the New Territory.

4. According to the Census of 1897, the Civil land population of British Kowloon number 27,158, to which must be added the Military and Naval forces stationed there, numbering, say, 900, and the population of the important villages of Kowloon and Sham Shui Po in the New Territory, as given in the Commissioner's Report, amounting to 3,500. The floating population in the adjoining portion of the Harbour was given as 7,624, making a grand total of 39,182.

5. Taking the Census of this year, which has just been published, the corresponding figures are found to be as follows:—

Civil population of British Kowloon,	43,614
Military and Naval Forces,	2,950
Kowloon City and Sham Shui Po,	8,902
Floating population near the Kowloon shore,	11,558

Grand total, 64,244
or an increase of nearly 70 per cent.

6. From the foregoing statement, it will be gathered that, not only is a much larger scheme proposed than that originally contemplated, but such a scheme is absolutely necessary. The interval between the Census of 1887 and that of 1901 is about 4 years and an equal period will elapse before the proposed works have been completed. Should the same rate of increase continue, the population to be provided for in 1905, when the works will have reached completion, will be about 112,000.

Taking the very moderate allowance of 10 gallons per head per day, the daily supply required will be about 1,120,000 gallons. That is to say, the original scheme would only have given about half the supply required whilst the new scheme will have a reasonable margin to carry on with whilst further works are being constructed. That further works will have to be undertaken soon after the completion of this scheme there can be little doubt.

8. Mr. Ormsby suggested in his Report that the dam should only be carried to a height of 8 feet in the first instance, leaving to a future date the raising of it to the full height. With the experience gained in Hongkong and the facts stated above, before me, I strongly deprecate such a course and recommend that the dam be carried to its full height forthwith.

9. There is no doubt whatever that, had the Tytam dam been originally built to its full height, Hongkong would have been spared some of the water famines from which it has suffered.

10. Turning now to the estimate, I give below the relative cost of the original and present schemes.

Item.	Original Scheme.	Present Scheme.
(1.) Storage Reservoir ...	\$150,000	\$489,000
(2.) Catchwater ...	6,000	40,000
(3.) Main to Filter Beds	16,000	24,000
(4.) Filter Beds and Bungalow ...	20,000	31,000
(5.) Main from Filter Beds to Service Reservoir	72,000	100,000
(6.) Service Reservoir at Kowloon Tong	60,000	70,000
(7.) Connection to and Extension of Distributing System ...	55,000	70,000
(8.) Service Reservoir at Kowloon City ...	6,000	7,000
(9.) Fire Hydrants on existing system ...	3,000	4,000
(10.) Purchase of cultivated ground ...	5,000	8,000
(11.) Road diversions ...	—	5,000
	393,000	848,000
Allow. for value of machinery, &c. to be dispensed with ...	13,000	13,000
Total ...	\$384,000	\$835,000

11. In comparing these two estimates, it must be borne in mind that nearly two years have elapsed since the original scheme was prepared, and that during that period there has been a great increase in the cost of labour and materials in the Colony, an increase which I estimate at 35 per cent.

12. I have already indicated the great changes which have been made in the scheme, but will recapitulate them here with reference to the various items of the estimate which have been affected by them.

Item (1). An alteration has been made in the site of the dam causing an increase of 30 feet in the height of it, and masonry and cement concrete have been substituted for earth and clay puddle in its construction.

Item (2). The original proposal provided only for intercepting a stream from a side-valley below the dam; the present scheme provides for a large catchwater along the Northern slopes of the Kowloon range of hills, intercepting the drainage from an area of 400 acres.

Item (3). Owing to the reduction in head, resulting from constructing the dam lower down the valley, the main to the Filter Beds has had to be increased in size.

Item (4). Filter Beds of more than double the area originally proposed are required to deal with the increased supply which is contemplated under the new scheme.

Items (5) to (9). The increases are required to cover the enhanced cost of materials and labour only.

Item (10). The amount originally stated was merely assumed; that now stated is based upon actual survey and measurement.

Item (11). The road diversion is rendered necessary by the altered position of the dam which will interfere with the old path leading to Tai Po and other villages. The original site of the dam caused no interference with this path.

13. With regard to (10) "Purchase of cultivated ground," I may mention that compensation was paid for cultivated land required for the construction of the Tai Po Road generally at the rate of 1 cent per square foot or \$436 per acre. I consider this amount altogether excessive and have taken a rate of \$225 per acre or about 1/2 cent per square foot in the estimate now submitted.

14. To summarize the matter, the scheme now proposed will give a supply of over 1 1/2 million gallons per day, which it is anticipated will be fully required within a few years after the works have been completed.

15. I therefore submit that the entire scheme be now undertaken and that I be authorized to call for tenders for the dam and contingent works, the estimated cost of which, including materials to be supplied by the Government, is \$505,000. The balance of the estimated cost is absorbed by the mains, service, reservoirs, &c., which will form separate contracts. It is imperative that the works should be undertaken without delay and that the present dry season should be availed of to the greatest extent possible.—I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

W. CHATHAM.

Acting Director of Public Works.

The Honourable The COLONIAL SECRETARY,

SUMMONING OF CHINESE ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL—I beg to move the following motion as to Ordinance No. 40 of 1899:—"Whereas by section 5 of the Summoning of Chinese Ordinance, 1899 (No. 40 of 1899), it was enacted that the said Ordinance should only continue in operation for the period of two years from the coming into operation of the said Ordinance and for such further period or periods as might from time to time be determined by resolution of the Legislative Council: It is hereby resolved by this Council that the Summoning of Chinese Ordinance, 1899, shall be continued in operation for the further period of three months from the 30th day of December, 1901 (inclusive). This Ordinance has now been in operation for nearly 2 years and I understand has worked very satisfactorily. It cannot be put into operation without the direction of the Governor, as he alone can direct the Registrar-General to make the enquiries referred to therein. It is not, therefore, surprising, knowing how carefully matters of this kind are considered by His Excellency, that no complaints have been brought to the knowledge either of the Registrar-General or the Attorney-General of any harsh or undue exercise of the very necessary powers conferred by the Ordinance. At present, as it was only to continue in operation for 2 years and such further period as might be determined by resolution of this Council, it would expire on 30th instant. It is however desirable that the Ordinance should continue in force for some time longer and my present resolution is to continue it for 3 months. This will enable the Registrar-General's report on its working to be considered so that it may be considered later on whether a further extension will be necessary.

The REGISTRAR GENERAL seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

SALARIES OF CIVIL SERVANTS.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—Before we proceed to the orders of the day, gentlemen, there is a matter I wish to say a word or two about—namely, a telegram I have received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies. In October last the estimates of expenditure went home and at that time we were aware that in the Straits Settlements, and the Federated Malay States an increase had been granted in the salaries and emoluments of the officials. However there was no provision made for any increase here further than that recommended at the time by the Committee. A short time afterwards I received from the Secretary of State a copy of the despatch that had been sent to the Straits Settlements in answer to the representations made by the Straits Settlements and Malay States. The Secretary of State had determined that in future all appointments the emoluments of which were over \$1,200 a year shall be paid in sterling, as also the salaries of the European police, prison warders and other subordinate positions occupied by Europeans appointed from home; but as regards the present holders of these there were certain exceptional advantages at present such as the advantage of officials receiving when they are on leave their half pay at 3/5 a dollar, and pension at the same rate.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—4/- on leave and 3/8 on pension.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—Yes. Well, the Secretary of State felt that he could hardly interfere with these advantages enjoyed by the present holders. So as far as the present holders of these were concerned, they received the option whether they would have their salaries in future paid in sterling at what the practical valuation of the sterling was, taking into consideration the possible advantage to pension pay, but that they would have the alternative of an increase not on the pay but that while actually serving in the Colony the compensation allowance for exchange should be given on the whole instead of the half salary. That increase was not to be calculated in either their leave or their pension but was to be a purely local increase while they continued to serve in the Colony, during the lifetime of the present holders. Well, when that came before me, in that despatch the Secretary of State informed me that he did not at present propose to increase the salaries of the officials in Hongkong until he was satisfied as to the financial position of

Hongkong. When I received that despatch I saw at once the position in which this Colony would be placed if the officials in the Straits were to be paid better than the corresponding positions were worth in Hongkong. Both Colonies are recruited, and will be recruited in the future, by cadets who go through the same examinations, and in accordance with their positions on the list these cadets have the option of choosing where they go. Naturally, if we are the worst paid Colony in the East, we must expect to get simply the remainder. The most successful will naturally choose the best paid position. I wrote in answer to that and I pointed out this to the Secretary of State and also that we find it extremely difficult to get recruits for our police, water police, and warders, or any position for which we want Europeans in this Colony. I pointed out further the position in which this would place Hongkong. Furthermore, I went into the question of the financial position of the Colony, and—I am speaking entirely to the unofficial members of this Council—I think it is unnecessary for me to say anything upon that matter. Anybody who has seen the list of public companies, shares, and other matters which are within the cognisance of anybody who chooses to take the trouble to inquire, must see that the operations in this Colony are very much larger than in Singapore; and I think as far as I, after nearly three years' experience, can gather, the financial position of this Colony is as sound as that of any in the British Empire. I pointed out that, and in answer to that I received this telegram from the Secretary of State on the 12th:—"Referring to Despatch 443. I agree to proposed grant to Government officials additional exchange compensation, to begin the first of next month, on condition laid down in the case of the Straits, and subject to consent by the Legislative Council, who must be warned that more revenue may be required." He pointed out in his despatch that possibly very large votes would have to be taken as a consequence of a possible revisitation of the plague, also possibly as the result of the visits from the two experts coming out, and that it was right to put this before you. But that being so, I place the matter before you. Every official member except myself is interested in this and it is, I need hardly say, a matter upon which they can neither speak nor vote. The following are the number of people who would be affected. There would be on the whole a total of 311 public officials affected by this—135 in the police, 26 in the gaol, 17 in the Harbourmaster's Office, 27 under the Sanitary Board, 32 in the Public Works Department, 9 in the Colonial Secretary's Office, 10 in Queen's College, 24 in the Medical Department, etc.—and the amount that will be necessary to pay that increased exchange compensation during their service in the Colony would be about \$120,000 a year, as far as I can see. These are the facts—the only facts—I have and am able to place before you. My own view is that it would be very injurious to this Colony, if it were placed upon a basis of inferiority to the Straits Settlements and the Malay States, and further I may tell you that we have the greatest difficulty at the present moment with our present salaries in procuring men for the gaol, the police, the water police and those small appointments for which Europeans are required. The Colonial Secretary has placed in my hands a letter from the senior unofficial member, Mr. Chater. He states that he is sorry at being unable to be present and adds:—"I am very strongly of opinion that our Civil Service here should not be placed in a worse position than the Service in Singapore, and I feel sure that the community would be of the same opinion." That is all I have to say upon the subject, and I place it before you.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—I understand, sir, the unofficial members are chiefly concerned in this matter and that the official members will neither discuss nor vote.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—No, they will not.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—With your leave, and in the absence of the senior unofficial member, I beg to propose a resolution in order that my unofficial colleagues may have an opportunity of discussing this question to-day. The proposition I have to make is as follows:—"That the decision of the Rt. Hon. the Secretary of

State for the Colonies regarding the further grant of exchange compensation to Civil servants of this Colony, subject to the approval of the Legislative Council, be approved by this Council." I am quite of the same opinion as the senior unofficial member of the Council. I certainly think that in the third port of the world we should not pay our Civil servants in any worse manner than they are paid in Singapore, considering that this Colony of Hongkong is the chief port of call for all vessels coming East or going West; and we expect, and have a right to expect, that all our Civil servants should discharge their duties in a faithful manner corresponding to the importance of this Colony. And while we expect faithful and long service from our Civil servants, we certainly should pay them sufficiently for their faithful work. Singapore, I believe, although it is a larger place than Hongkong, is in prosperity, in trade, and in everything else, far behind Hongkong, and I believe the duties there of the Civil servants are not anything like so hard and important as we have for them here. So that in sanctioning this further grant in exchange compensation, we are doing nothing in exchange compensation, and I for one, but justice to our Civil servants, and I for one, as representing the Chinese, numerous large tax-payers in the Colony, am quite of the opinion that their compensation should be increased. There is a further inducement, I think, in this way, that while they are on active service here they get the full compensation, and in their absence on leave they do not have any such advantage, so that there would be an inducement to work harder here and not go home on half-pay leave so frequently. We at all events, as colonists and inhabitants, get good service for the rate of pay. I propose this resolution just to the opinion of my unofficial colleague, and I am quite ready to discuss the question; I only put this out as a feeler, so that we may all see what opinion will be expressed and whether we are unanimous in sanctioning this decision of the Secretary of State.

Hon. J. J. BELL IRVING—I have much pleasure in seconding the proposition put before the Council. I heartily agree with what Dr. Ho Kai has said.

Hon. WEI A YUK—I beg to concur with all Dr. Ho Kai has said.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I would certainly have seconded the proposal and my sympathies are entirely with the Civil servants. But, sir, I would like if this motion could be postponed until next meeting of the Council with the view of having an opportunity of going into the matter. This is the first, practically, I have heard of the motion. I did not know that it was to be brought forward to-day, and if it would make no difference I would like time to give it full consideration. If your Excellency would give the unofficial members an opportunity of perusing the despatches which have passed I have no doubt at all that an unanimous vote could be come to.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—I quite understand the position of the hon. member. I may tell you that I gave this at once to the senior unofficial member of the Council with a view to his communicating with the other members. Unfortunately you were not here, being away at the time. Of course if it is the wish of the unofficial members that it should be postponed, I am in their hands. As to the despatches, they were confidential; I have said as much as I can regarding them, and I do not think I can make them public, because they were confidential and mention some matters that perhaps it might be as well not to publish. I have no objection to show the hon. member the despatch if he wishes to see it. Perhaps that would be quite sufficient.

Hon. J. THURBURN—I quite concur with what Dr. Ho Kai has said on every ground but especially on the ground that it is most undesirable that our officials should be paid less than those of any other Colony. As you, sir, mentioned in your speech, we would get the worst men. There is no question about that, and I think that is one of the strongest reasons why we should grant this increase. For my part, I have much pleasure in supporting it.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR—I do not know whether I mentioned it, but the proposal is that this increase should take place from the

first of next month, and that is one of the reasons I wished to bring the matter before the Council to-day before the first of next month. As a rule I disapprove of retrospection in such cases, and I think it is better that we have the thing arranged before the date arrives. If it is the wish of the unofficial members that it be postponed, I am entirely in their hands.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—In deference to what has been said, I will not press my proposal. I have no desire to stand in the way. Only before giving my vote on a question involving a very considerable outlay of money, I should have liked to have had an opportunity of fully considering and discussing all the pros. and cons. My sympathies are entirely with the resolution, but as an ordinary matter of business I should have liked to have had an opportunity of going into the matter, and discussing it in all its different phases and on its merits. Still I have no desire to oppose the wishes of the majority.

The motion on being put to the Council, was carried unanimously.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTRATION.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The first item in the orders of the day is the second reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance, 1896. There are one or two matters in this Bill which I should take more fully to consider before it is brought on, and as there is no great urgency in the matter I would ask you, sir, to postpone the second reading to some future occasion after it has been more fully discussed.

This was agreed to.

REGISTRATION OF EMIGRANTS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—As regards the next item, the third reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to further amend the Chinese Emigration Consolidation Ordinance, 1889, there are one or two slight alterations which I think it would be desirable to make. I have read it over with the Harbour Master since my return and we have made some slight alterations.

The Council went into Committee on the Bill, and it was considered clause by clause.

On resuming,

The Bill was read a third time and passed on the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the HARBOUR MASTER.

The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately afterwards, the Hon. Colonial Secretary presiding.

STEAM LAUNCHES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of three hundred and thirty-nine dollars (\$339) in aid of the vote of \$15,200 for "Coa's. repairs, &c., to steam-launches," Harbour Master's Department.

The CHAIRMAN—The Hon. Harbour Master, in applying for this vote, points out that the actual cost of repairs, etc., to the launches has exceeded the estimate by nearly \$1,000. In order to meet this excess the vote is necessary.

The recommendation was approved.

SANITARY AND POLICE EXPENSE.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one thousand two hundred and fifty-two dollars and fifty cents (\$1,252.50) to cover the cost of:—

13 pairs of wheels and axles complete	
at \$22.5 per pair,	\$ 292.50
24 pairs of cushion tyres at \$40 per pair,	960.00

Total, \$1,252.50

for the use of the Sanitary and Police Departments.

The CHAIRMAN—The Medical Officer of Health in his letter says that four ambulances for the removal of infectious cases to hospital have been built and are only waiting for wheels. I am sure all the members of committee will agree to this very desirable expenditure.

The recommendation was approved.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of nineteen thousand and two hundred dollars (\$19,200) in aid of the following votes:—Public Works, annually recurrent expenditure.

Maintenance of buildings	\$ 2,700.00
Maintenance of macadamised roads in Victoria	10,000.00
Maintenance of Praya wall and piers	500.00
Maintenance of waterworks, city and hill district	2,000.00
Drainage works, miscellaneous	4,000.00
Total	\$19,200.06

The CHAIRMAN—If any hon. member wishes any explanation of any of those items the Director of Public Works will be glad to furnish it.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—It appears that there is a very large expenditure in excess of the estimated cost for the maintenance of macadamised roads. How is it that there has been this excess?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—It is very well known, as being a subject of general comment, that the roads have been in bad condition for some time past, and every effort has been made to bring them into a satisfactory state. It has been necessary to undertake very large repairs under that vote in order to bring them into anything like a satisfactory condition. Then again the increase of the vote has not, I think, kept pace with the increase in the surfaces of roads which it is necessary to maintain. The Praya reclamation, as everyone knows, has added an immense area to the road surface of the Colony, and my opinion is that the vote has not been correspondingly increased, when the extra cost of labour and material is taken into account, with the increase of area. These are the only explanations I can give so far.

THE CIVIL SERVICE VOTE.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of thirty thousand seven hundred and twenty-eight dollars and twenty-seven cents (\$30,728.27) to meet the cost of increases of salaries of the subordinates in the Civil Service during the current year.

The recommendation was approved.
This was all the business.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held on the 23rd inst. in the Board Room. Present:—Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer (President); Hon. A. W. Brewin, Registrar-General (Vice-President); Dr. F. W. Clark, Medical Officer of Health; Mr. F. J. Badeley, Acting Captain Superintendent of Police; Lieut. Col. Hughes, R.A.M.C.; Mr. E. Osborne, Mr. Fung Wa Chun, Mr. Lau Chupak, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

AMENDMENT OF DRAINAGE BYE-LAW.

An amendment of Drainage Bye-law No. 30 was the first item in the orders of the day for the consideration of the Board.

Mr. OSBORNE—I beg to move, sir, that this amendment be referred to the leading architects in the Colony for their consideration and opinions. I think it would be as well if all alterations of the laws connected with the drainage of private premises were referred to them before being finally passed by this Board. It would save a great deal of trouble, perhaps, in the end.

Dr. CLARK seconded, and the motion was carried.

QUARTERLY INSPECTION COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The fourth report of the Quarterly Inspection Committee was laid on the table.

A QUESTION OF CONSTRUCTION.

Correspondence relative to the height of the floors at No. 21, East Street was laid on the table. This matter was before the Board at its meeting on the 12th inst., and on the motion of the PRESIDENT was referred to the next meeting of members.

Mr. BREWIN repeated the remarks he then made, and said that as the floors in question were only three inches below the statutory height they should be allowed to remain.

In opposing the application of the owner in this respect, Mr. OSBORNE said—If we grant this request we shall bring no end of trouble on ourselves in the future. The maximum, or the minimum height, rather, has been set, and everyone knows it.

Mr. BREWIN—It has been altered lately.

Mr. OSBORNE—If we are prepared to grant exemption in this case simply because there is

a difference of three inches only, I don't see why the same argument should not apply to four inches or five inches, or even six inches. In fact, I don't see where you are going to apply the limit, and as far as I am concerned I shall certainly vote against the request.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—I think this is only a conditional concession. The house, as the Vice-President has informed the Board, is only to be used as a godown—not as an ordinary tenement house.

Mr. BREWIN—As a place of business.

After a pause, Mr. BREWIN said—I beg to move that the motion I made at last meeting be adopted—"That the owner of this house be informed that the mezzanine floor on the top story of No. 21, East Street be reduced to one half the floor area, and that otherwise the floors be permitted to remain as they are, so long as the house is occupied as a hong and the first floor used simply as a godown."

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN seconded, and the motion was carried.

Regarding the absence of a backyard to the premises, Mr. BREWIN next moved "That the house be exempted from the necessity of providing a backyard."

This motion was seconded by Mr. LAU CHUPAK and also carried.

THE DEATH RATE.

The mortality statistics showed that during the week ended 14th inst. the death rate throughout the Colony was 23.6 per 1,000 of the population per annum, as against 30.6 in the previous week and 23.2 in the corresponding week of the preceding year.

LIMEWASHING.

Dr. CLARK submitted the limewashing return for the fortnight ended 14th December, which bore that in the Western district there had been 2,171 houses cleansed during that period.

RATCATCHERS FOR KOWLOON.

The Board next considered a recommendation by Dr. CLARK that the authority of the Government should be obtained for the employment of fifteen ratcatchers for Kowloon.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT seconded by Mr. OSBORNE, the recommendation was adopted by the Board.

RATS IN DWELLING HOUSES.

Dr. CLARK further recommended that the Board obtain authority to insert advertisements in the local (English) Press inviting householders whose premises are infested with rats to communicate with the Medical Officer of Health, who will send ratcatchers to the house and endeavour to rid it of them.

Mr. OSBORNE moved that the recommendation be forwarded to the Government.

The PRESIDENT seconded, and the motion was carried.

WORK OF THE CLEANSING GANG.

During the fortnight ended 21st December, the cleansing gang have dealt with 973 houses, as compared with 691 during the previous fortnight. The number of floors fumigated was 2,007, and the number of floors cleansed 2,259. Taking the twelve working days, this represents an average of almost 27 floors per gang per day, as compared with 20 floors during the previous fortnight, and shows that, now that the work is in full swing, it can be accomplished more expeditiously.

This was all the public business.

THE CASE OF AMOK AT TIENTSIN.

We reprint from the *China Times* the following official account of the recent case of amok at Tientsin:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CHINA TIMES."

Sir,—In your issue of the 10th December you published an article on the very deplorable calamity caused by a frenzied Indian soldier on the 9th inst. As this article contains so many errors, which might be construed by your readers as a partial impeachment of the Germans, we would ask you to be so good as to publish the following account in the next issue with a view to their rectification.

The whole business clearly depends not so much on an unfortunate error on the part of the Germans as on a mistake, to use the word so frequently employed by you, on the part of the Indian soldiers. As the enquiry has already confirmed, the frenzied Afridi without the

slightest provocation from the German side, killed a German officer and a baker. All the above German soldiers were unarmed and a German guard had not yet arrived on the scene. When the latter did arrive, the only person it used its arms against was the frenzied Afridi.

The Indian guard following up, fired into the German lines, undoubtedly with the intention of shooting the Afridi, and the German soldiers engaged close by in building a church, who did not know what had previously occurred in the Indian barracks, could only suppose it was firing at them. The Indians then tried to force their way on to the strongly enclosed site occupied by the German commissariat, doubtless with the idea of seizing the madman, but in such a manner, that the German soldiers hastening to the spot from where they were engaged in building the church, and suddenly seeing a German officer lying there in his blood, could only imagine an attack was intended.

They consequently seized the Indian guard, but not before some casualties had occurred, and even these injuries would not have been sustained by the guard if it had not resisted its arrest.

We have the honour to be, etc.,

VON ROHRSCHEIDT.

Major-General,

Commanding German Troops.

O'M. CREAGH, Major-General,

Comdg. British Contingent,
China Field Force.

Tientsin, 11th December, 1901.

CITY HALL ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of shareholders in and subscribers to the City Hall was held on the 23rd inst. in the Ante-room, Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Chairman of Committee, presiding.

The Hon. SECRETARY (Mr. F. B. L. Bowley) submitted the report, which showed that a new Committeeman had to be elected in place of Hon. H. E. Pollock, K. C., resigned. In repairs and alterations the sum of \$703.44 was spent upon the City Hall building, during the year ended 30th June last. The number of performances in the Theatre exceeded all previous records, the audiences drawn by the various entertainments being much in excess of average seasons, and had it not been for the death of our lamented Queen, which for a time checked the gaiety of the season, the receipts would have been far above the average. The expenditure on repairs was not heavy. As to the Library, it continued to be increasingly appreciated and the experiment of keeping it open in the evening might be said to be quite a success. The Free Lending Collection attracted a number of readers, but a better supply of books is urgently needed. Sixty-two is at present the number of borrowers, and the Collection now includes 531 books. The number of visitors to the Library during the 12 months was 19,050 non-Chinese and 6,097 Chinese—more than double last year's numbers. Regarding the Museum, several interesting specimens have been added, including gifts from His Excellency Sir H. A. Blake, G.C.M.G., Capt. F. Wall, Messrs. E. S. Pereira, W. Goldenberg, Lee Lin Shang, C. H. Gale, A. P. Samy, H. P. Tooker, R. C. Edwards, J. M. de Jesus and Basil Taylor. It is much to be regretted that lack of space and funds and of scientific supervision prevent the development of the Museum, while the ravages of the climate render it difficult to keep the specimens in good condition. The Museum is, however, much appreciated by visitors to the Colony, both Chinese and non-Chinese, the number of visitors during the 12 months under review being non-Chinese 9,047 and Chinese 106,172. The balance in the hands of the Hon. Treasurer, when the accounts up to 30th June, 1901, were closed, was \$5,019.98, showing a gain on the year's working of \$2,291.45. Most of the balance carried forward has since been expended on repairs and improvements. The reserve fund on fixed deposit with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is \$13,512.55, upon which interest amounting to \$511.70 had accrued up to 24th June, 1901.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen,—The report, which goes fully into the details of administration during the past year, I propose to consider as read. From a financial point of view

the year was fairly satisfactory, although the general mourning consequent upon the lamented death of our late gracious Queen considerably interfered with the gaiety of the season. The substantial balance carried forward has since been availed of for the purpose of repairing and redecorating the whole of the interior of the building, and of introducing electric light into the halls, staircases, and smaller rooms, so that the whole of the Ball Room Suite is now lit with one uniform illuminant. Electric plant for lighting the stage has been ordered and will shortly be fixed and, it is expected, will greatly add to the comfort of both performers and audience. At the height of the plague season in June last a case unfortunately occurred in the basement of the City Hall, and the whole building was closed for a month, during which period it was thoroughly fumigated and cleansed. Since then a large portion of the basement has been concreted and all living rooms lime-washed. The increase of the population of the Colony showed itself in the crowded houses drawn by the Lilliputians, the Dallas, and Brough companies, when the accommodation of the Theatre was taxed to the utmost extent. The Committee has sustained a great loss in the retirement of the Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., who took a great interest in the Library and was the originator of the scheme for opening it in the evenings, and who founded the Free Lending Collection which is housed in the Library and also is the only collection of books in Hongkong available free to every person, the only condition being the obtaining of a guarantee from a resident householder. That these arrangements are appreciated is shown by the fact that over 25,000 persons made use of the Library during the 12 months under review, and the current year promises a large increase on those numbers. Regular contributions of newspapers and periodicals to the Library, and gifts of standard books to the Lending Collection are urgently needed and will be gratefully received by the Secretary. Mr. Pollock generously contributed a donation of \$300 in aid of the Library on his departure, and I may say that similar donations will always be very welcome. The Museum suffers from lack of space and absence of scientific supervision, but the fact that it attracts over 110,000 visitors a year shows the need for such an institution. Gifts of specimens of all sorts are solicited by the Committee. A great improvement in the lighting of the Museum has been effected by the glazing of the doors on the South side, which were formerly of solid wood. I desire to express on behalf of the members of the Committee their appreciation of the active interest taken in this Institution by our Secretary and Librarian, Mr. Bowley, whose exertions have contributed much to the present satisfactory position. The Committee do not for the present aim at making a profit out of the City Hall, the shareholders of which have never received a dividend; their object is to administer the trust reposed in them in the interests of the Colony at large, and for the benefit of the community generally, and they hope that the report and accounts now laid before the meeting will be accepted in that spirit. (Applause.) I beg to move the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. B. LAYTON, the Hon. Treasurer, seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

This was all the public business.

The Chinchoufu (Shantung) correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* says:—"The new railway is looming up. Already the survey flags are visible for a considerable distance north and east of us, and the railway begins to bulk largely in our imagination. A friend lately made the journey from Tsingtao to Weihhsien easily in a day and a half, which formerly took three hard days to do by road. The railway is now open for traffic to Changlin, 33 miles from Weihhsien, and the line would soon be open to Weihhsien itself if bridges could be built more quickly." A Berlin telegram of the 16th inst. says:—"H. M. the Emperor has expressed to the Schantung Eisenbahn Gesellschaft (Shantung Railway Company) his congratulations on the occasion of the opening of the line from Tsingtao to Changlin."

MANILA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 17th December.

BANQUET TO THE "ENDYMION'S" OFFICERS.

When H.M.S. *Endymion* leaves Manila Bay, it is hoped for the sake of all on board that the ship will take a cruise of several days before entering another port. Ever since the anchor came to rest off the Pasig breakwater there has been a continuous round of entertainment. Dinners, receptions and ball have filled one day after another. The members of the Commission, the English residents and the clubs have literally plotted out the hours, until the officers came almost to the point of establishing social instead of ship's "watches" and dividing themselves to stand duty on shore. Captain Paget is well known to many of the American Army and Navy officers, and his duty in Cuba and China has won him many friendships. Lt. Colonel Welchman, I.S.C., who came on the *Endymion* as the guest of Captain Paget, has spent most of his time on shore and has been a familiar figure at the Army and Navy Club. Colonel McKibben, commanding the Port of Manila, and Lt. Colonel Anderson of the 6th Cavalry invited him to inspect the barracks, stables and parade grounds, which courtesy he accepted, and later expressed himself as being much impressed with the high standard of the negro troops stationed in Manila.

Last Saturday the members of the Army and Navy Club tendered a banquet to Captain Paget and the officers of the *Endymion*. Covers were laid for ninety-two and every seat was filled. In fact, after the speeches began, a number of officers crowded the doorways and joined in the applause. The midshipmen turned out in force and had a high time of it. The table was arranged as an oval, thus accommodating three heads, presided over by General Chaffee and Captain Paget, Governor Wright and Commander William Q. Boothby, and Admiral Rodgers with Colonel Welchman. General Chaffee was toastmaster and formally opened the evening with "bottoms up" (draining the glasses) to the President and to King Edward VII. He then introduced Captain Paget, who was constantly interrupted by prolonged applause. He struck a responsive chord and carried the whole assembly with him. Briefly he referred to his old friend Chaffee, the diplomat, who with a few simple words swept away the sophistry of Ministers. He spoke of the growing cordiality between the two branches of our race and quite took the place by storm by saying, "If some critics and writers in the American papers seek to stir up or anticipate trouble, I am sure it is due to a certain insular feeling that still exists in those far wilds" (the United States). "Columbia is the daughter of Britannia and if sometimes we are surprised at the immense go and energy of the American nation, why after all—we bred her. America is coming home to England more and more every day. We have the American girl with us and I assure you she is a strong element in our recognition of the States' facility and go in getting on top. We feel an immense warmth and hospitality wherever we see the Stars and Stripes." The genial captain may have intended to say something more, but at this point he was silenced by the wildest applause and then someone started singing, "For he's a jolly good fellow," in which everyone joined, and when the song was over the captain was in his chair and did not attempt to rise again. Then the band played a "Hot time in the old town," and all hands sang again.

Governor Wright was the next speaker with the text—"The Philippine Islands." He said that had he been asked to talk on this subject thirty days after his arrival in the islands he would have had much to say, but after a residence of eighteen months he was at a loss to answer. He felt that possibly one of the principal reasons for the Americans being in the islands is because they have English blood in their veins and hence inherit the habit of "taking over" large territories. "The Englishman has always taken over large territories—for the good of the taking over. First comes the missionary, then the merchant, the soldiers, the statesmen. Wherever Englishmen have gone they have

taken with them justice, fair play and the best interests of the governed. (Applause). So that England has been able to make the governments of strange peoples wise and popular government. The younger branch (America) has undoubtedly a similar feeling of expansion. I believe Americans bring with them the same ideas which have animated Old England in annexing territory. (Applause.) Captain Paget has been adopted, yes, formally adopted by Americans; he belongs to the young England type, to the large English type and not to the little English. The time for differences between England and America has passed away. Let me repeat, 'Blood is thicker than water.' We have received from England the laws and custom and self-control that has made America of to-day; we have given back to England the evidences of thrift and enterprise and invention and all girls—hence we are square." (Loud applause, with appreciative bursts from the gun room contingent).

Commander Boothby, R.N., responded to the toast, "The Royal Navy" and gave a first class speech. He was followed by Admiral Rodgers U.S.N. and Lieut. Colonel Welchman, I.S.C. The latter spoke in a most interesting manner on his impressions of Manila and the American troops stationed in the vicinity. Colonel Arthur L. Wagner, U.S.A., spoke eloquently on the history and achievements of the American Army, and Colonel C. A. Woodruff, U.S.A., moved everyone to the wildest enthusiasm in his exceedingly clever and witty response to "Sweethearts and Wives." This fittingly closed the evening, though many of the British officers remained on shore for the night and joined a merry throng which happily passed away the hours in the flow of soul, song, wit and other things, until the earthquake shook them up rudely at seven the next morning. Altogether the affair was a complete success and never were more cordial relations in evidence. Everyone was in the happiest frame of mind and friendliest spirits.

Aside from the officers the following civilians were present—Commissioner Ide, W. Adams Oram of the H.K.S.B. Co., T. E. Sansom of the Chartered Bank, P. G. McDonnell, *New York Sun* correspondent, Captain E. G. Bellairs, Associated Press correspondent, Messrs. Steele and E. H. White.

OUT OF DOORS IN BORNEO.

[FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

Labuan, Borneo.

North Borneo does not seek fame as a hunting resort. Other lands which possibly offer no more are quite welcome to that distinction. Government just now is interested in drawing settlers, not in scaring them off. It has set forth such stringent game laws that prudent residents, lest they risk fine or imprisonment, or both, usually avoid the subject. When some of the dreams of the country come true, and prosperity creates a leisure class, there ought to be a well-developed preserve for the pleasure of dukes and others who like to hang their halls with tusks, skins, and horned skulls. There is deer in plenty, the rhinoceros has here a habitat, every district is traversed by herds of elephants, and all manner of tropical birds and animals abound. At present it is permissible to speak in public only of shooting crocodiles, boa constrictors, and stray dogs.

A letter from an American officer recently visiting the east side of the island is now shown to some of the friends he made who may be trusted with a secret, in which he confesses that he came to Borneo to shoot an elephant and succeeded. Knowing that his service in the Philippines was about over, he obtained a month's leave. At Sandakan he made the acquaintance of the manager of a tobacco estate up the Kinabatangan River, whose guest he became. He led a free life on the estate and reported no special adventure while he remained. His letter came from Manila, as he was about to sail for the United States. It says that, although he often heard elephants trumpeting and always went after them, he had no luck until the day before that set for his departure. That day he found fresh tracks. Following them for several miles from the plantation, he came upon about a dozen elephants, among them a fine bull. The animals did not hear

him and he got a well-aimed shot at the bull. The others in the herd stampeded, but the bull, after stumbling round for a moment, made a rush directly at him. He was ready for it, and it fell almost at arm's length, with a bullet in its brain. The officer says that he intended to get a native servant and one or two men and go back that afternoon for the tusks. Plans of the host interfered. He said nothing of the adventure, for fear the host might not feel quite right over his having made that use of his hospitality, and supposing that the host might be saved trouble if he knew nothing of it. He wanted the tusks so badly, however, that on his return to Manila he decided to make full confession and say that he would be most glad to pay for any trouble in securing the tusks, if men could be sent out to get them. He described as well as he could where the shooting occurred. Men who went out found no trace of a carcass, which the officer thought ought to make itself noticeable, as he soberly judged the bull to be about seven feet tall, although when it was rushing at him it looked as big as a house. At about this time, curiously, a pair of elephant tusks, each six feet long, reached the Sandakan customs for sale or shipment. A Chinese trader from Semporna said he had got them from a native, who had found a dead elephant. The tusks were specially fine ones, and the trader expected to sell them for ten shillings per catty. They weighed 55½ cattis, nearly 41 pounds, and at the trader's price would yield 275 local dollars, from \$130 to \$135 gold. The animal from which they came must have been taller than seven feet, but it may be that the officer chose to keep well within bounds in the estimate in his letter. A record at Sandakan, apparently authentic, tells of tusks each 32 inches long which came from an elephant nine feet seven inches tall.

Everybody has experience with crocodiles. They make some of the streams dangerous for small boats. It is not uncommon for a crocodile to steal up behind a boat containing several natives, lift a paddler out by the arm, and make off with him. There is no use in looking a crocodile straight in the eye, expecting him to back away. He has never heard of that sure means of cowering lions and tigers, and besides he likes to do things his own way. A native surprised by a crocodile is said to fall instantly under the sort of spell that a snake casts over a bird, becoming utterly powerless to move or to cry out. The crocodile may indulge his appetite piecemeal or in bulk. So far as may be judged, the natural preference of this destroyer was for Booloodcopy, upon which it fastened and improved its breed for generations, until the normal adult crocodile length became twenty feet, with a stroke of five horse power per foot in its tail. Of late, like the rest of the world, it has become accustomed to Chinese and will not willingly do without it. Weariness of mortal strife, in Chinese Booloodcopy, Dusun, Dayak or any other human species, may always find sure and quick relief within reach of a crocodile's tail, or by looking him in the eye. The eye is the place to look, indeed, if one is unfriendly, for a bullet there makes subsequent proceedings *post mortem*.

When the government recently announced that all dogs must be licensed and tagged, or shot, the sympathy to be expected for a dog where Englishmen live found frequent and general expression. One story went the rounds which pleaded in the dog's behalf that he could outwit the crocodile. In substance the story was that when a dog wished a day in the country, he always arranged for plenty of company. On reaching a stream, all the dogs would gather close together on the bank and make all the noise they could. Every crocodile within hearing, his mouth a-water, would hasten to the spot. When the meeting became full, the dogs would suddenly scamper down the bank for a few hundred yards and swim the stream safely while the delegation of crocodiles sat wondering what it all meant. The dogs returned home by the same device at another part of the stream. That scheme worked as often as the dogs decided on a picnic, the crocodiles never seeming able to see the joke or to circumvent it. When some sceptic called for the documents on this story, it came out that the original narrator might have been quite truthful. Dogs do kick up a racket at

the banks of streams, for the purpose of drawing crocodiles to that spot; but they do it at the bidding of their masters, the natives, and scamper away after them to a place in the stream where they may all plunge in together and cross in safety. The laugh is on the crocodiles at any rate, and the dogs certainly do their part in putting it there.

When a crocodile casts a spell upon a native, the native cannot recover until the crocodile is dead. Any native will declare that countless experience proves this assertion. There is an old chief named Haji Drabime in the Kudat district who was moved by the crocodile and dog story to relate crocodile incidents that had come under his own observation, to A. C. Pearson, Assistant Treasurer General of the Government. Haji says that one day when he was on the Benkoka River, his eyes failed him. There seemed to be a mist and darkness, although it was mid-day. In alarm he spoke to his wife, in the boat with him. She knew intuitively that the spell of the crocodile must be coming over him, and begged him to arm himself at once, as the spell does not work when a man is armed. Before he could get out his kris, a crocodile tried to climb into the boat. Haji seized a pole, sharp at the end, and thrust it into the mouth of the intruder, which sank back into the water. For three days and nights Haji could not sleep. Whenever he closed his eyes, he saw the crocodile about to bite him. He grew sick in mind and body. An old man then warred him that until he killed the crocodile, its influence would be upon him. That night he set a trap. He did not see the crocodile approach it, but toward morning he went to sleep with a quiet heart. When he awoke, he went to the trap, and found the crocodile dead, with a big wound in its throat, made by the pole. Mr. Pearson tells of a meeting that some of his employees had with a crocodile recently which will be proof conclusive to the native mind that the theory of Haji regarding the duration of a spell is right. In the first encounter, which occurred near Kudat, one of his men was so badly hurt that he died. Mr. Pearson sent out other coolies, two of whom became insane. The remainder of them took the advice of Haji, and set a trap for the crocodile. While one of the men was at work on the trap the spellbinder appeared, and the man stood still and helpless. The other two coolies attacked with their spears, and the crocodile swam off with the spears in his back. Since the man spellbound soon recovered and nothing has since happened to him, Haji stands ready to make affidavit that the crocodile is dead. Mr. Pearson knows about the tricks of the imagination, nervous fright, and such things, but he says he has no doubt that many people who have visited or resided here could tell experiences which would be received at an English dinner table with a polite "How very strange" and a quiet, meaning smile.

The crocodile is a good dog-catcher, in spite of the tricks that dogs play by their barking, and is specially partial to wild boar, which is also allowable game for man. Neither dog nor boar seems to know enough to recognise the difference between a log of wood on the bank of a stream and a crocodile playing possum there. They have no time to know anything after one swish of the crocodile's tail or one snap of its jaws.

Wild life, except in the elephant and rhinoceros, has not retreated far from the settlements. It abounds everywhere, and is amazingly quiet. The human kind may pass among it without startling it, for it has not yet learned to regard man as an enemy. One may examine at tolerably close range the plumage and markings of a great variety of birds, some of them strikingly beautiful. They call, but have no song beyond a twitter attuned to the rustling of the foliage that shelters them. There are a dozen distinct species of the kingfisher, all gaily plumed, the white crane or paddy bird, green and gray pigeons, snipe, golden plover, rails, hornbills, sandpipers, frigate birds, hawks of various kinds, Java sparrows, and starlings. The goat-sucker, regarded by the natives as a bird of ill omen, can shut off a contract or a journey by a single note of warning. No native would dare be heedless of

that admonition. A reassuring note from the hornbill will set the native right again, but without it the day and task in hand are finished, and there must be a renewal as fresh as if it were the beginning. It is the same practice that some of the tribes in Mindanao follow, whether or not under the influence of the same birds. In the prevailing stillness of the wilds a warning note always sounds so distinctly that there is no mistaking it. What would happen to a native who scoffed at a goat-sucker and went on about his business is not quite clear, except that among his possible misfortunes might be a visit from the man-eating ghosts who watch from the hills their chances to pounce upon the wanton and reckless.

A native is a good guide for game or bird, for he knows all the forest life, from the sun bird, the humming bird of the East, ethereal, sprightly, and sparkling with iridescent hues among the blossoms on which it feeds, to the giants of the woods and the tough-hided, cruel monsters of the streams. All the wild life knows the native and regards him as part of itself, there to prey and be preyed upon when occasion requires, but ordinarily harmless. Among the natives who settle down and have permanent abiding places, the birds and animals make themselves quite at home, nesting under the roof and finding shelter from sun and storm and at night within the enclosure of stilts that support the floors. Wild life, indeed, is almost as free in the bungalows at the plantations. A planter keeps a mongoose as a protection against snakes of intrusive disposition. No one is surprised to be awakened in the night by civets in his room, arguing out their differences so like civilised cats as to make him homesick. A traveller who drifted over to Sebangon tells of an interview there with a native who entertained him, which might be repeated within a day's trip from the coast, in almost any part of the territory, by anyone curious regarding things primeval. "Are elephants about here?" asks the guest. "Mataod" (loads of them), the host replies. "Rhinoceros?" "Mataod." "Deer?" "Mataod." "Buffalo?" "Mataod." "Wild boar?" Just then the floor threatens an upheaval from a terrific outbreak of noises between a squeal and a snort, proceeding from directly beneath where the men are talking. "That is one," or words to that effect, replied the host quietly, not in the least surprised or disturbed by the intrusion. A white man who studies his own interest in these parts will learn to become as stolid and unconcerned over all externals as was this native over the visit of this boar, as big as a donkey, to the shade of his establishment for a noonday rest, and who found his favourite corner occupied by a black panther. The natives are intensely superstitious and fear many things needlessly, and such admiration and respect for whites as they feel has been won by exhibitions, often forced and unnatural, of superiority to whatever may befall. The fatalist is the native ideal, and the white man who betrays concern over anything, temper, excitement, surprise, grief, or excess of emotion in any respect, loses the mastery essential to his complete success with the natives.

The white ant may not be properly game, but opinion throughout the tropical East would probably subscribe unanimously to a scheme that promised to make it extinct. It does all the things in Borneo that have distinguished it elsewhere. When the occupant of a bungalow, resolving to correct the sprawling condition of his room and to keep it as dainty as if he had a wife along, puts his boots and clothing carefully away in a wardrobe at night, and finds in the morning the wardrobe merely a glaze of varnish which falls in dust to his touch, he will lack in true Borneo culture if he expresses any emotion. The white ants have been there in the night and taken away all the wood of the wardrobe and all its contents and belongings except shoe nails, the key of the door and the small hardware that held the contrivance together. If the planter had coin in his pockets, the ants left that for him, so that he might be encouraged to buy anew. An occurrence of this kind is of course not common, but it is among the tales that come down from the interior. Borneo climate certainly suits the white ant, for it builds houses here of mud and straw, which

anyone may see, cone-shaped and ranging in height from a man's knee to his shoulder.

Man's chummiest companion in the wilds is the monkey, which grades from the tiniest of the species to a product in size and appearance calculated to bewilder the untaught eye. The high prolific quality of Borneo for stories of wild men, hairy men, men with tails and more of that kind, indicates how attractive here is the field for observations of ape-life. Proffer of friendship by a tribe which eats monkey flesh and wears the skins, with tail attached, may easily have led early voyagers to wonder whether or not they would be expected to bare their arms and exchange the blood of brotherhood with the real thing, when first they spied it in the trees. Another land must probably be explored to find an ape which will be accepted as the human progenitor, but if one is out for entertainment rather than science he may confidently pitch his tent in Borneo. An occurrence at this moment will illustrate the diversion that monkeys furnish. There is a tree a rod or so off, occupied now by a crowd of them. Far out on one branch sat a grandfather monkey, wrapped in the dignity of gray hairs and wrinkles. He had retired there for a little quiet, sleepy thinking, and sat with hold relaxed on the bough, and the breeze gently fanning him. An urchin monkey crept up behind, and by a quick push tipped grandfather completely over and sent him head first to the ground, 60 feet below. Grandfather struck properly on his head, but he was right side up in an instant, surveying his former perch and the grinning squatter there. Then he climbed the tree, walked slowly up to that urchin—who had a real crocodile spell on him—and after cuffing him soundly, seized him by the arm, swung him several times in a circle, and hurled him out into the wide world. The urchin landed in the next tree unharmed but probably impressed. Monkeys have no airs or pretences, as with the human tribe, supposed at one time to have been of white origin but which turned out to have hair that looked red because the earth on which the members slept was ground into it and had bleached there. Even whites must respect the control that crocodiles keep over Borneo streams, but a tribe whose dread of bathing threatened to mislead the world with a new theory of human history, deserves to be out of the reckoning compared with monkeys, regarding whom at least there will never be anything to unlearn.

PEKING.

Peking, 7th December.

The new Viceroy Yuan Shi-kai reached Peking yesterday afternoon. General Chiang Kuei-ti, with all his subordinate officials and over 1,000 soldiers were at the station to meet him. The officials of the city were not present, as he must first call on them. The Chinese military alone are under his authority. He takes the place of Li Hung-chang as Viceroy and Superintendent of Northern Trade, and, practically, of Yung Lu as Generalissimo. He was, however, received here not so much as Viceroy as General. The military officers and troops having served under him in Shantung did him high honour in welcoming him to his promotion. To-day he called on Prince Ching. He will call on the Foreign Ministers, and try to induce them to give up the Provisional Government in Tientsin, so that he may establish his viceregal headquarters at that place. If his persuasive powers should be unsuccessful, he will return to Paotingfu. He intends, like Viceroy Li, in the old days, to lay special emphasis on a navy and army according to Western methods. This reform is highly acceptable to the Court. He will also undertake educational reform throughout the whole province. His advent is one of promise.

SIR ERNEST SATOW

also returned yesterday. The English first secretary, Mr. Reginald Tower, left to-day for his new office as Minister in Siam. The legation loses a capable and agreeable man.

THE MOVEMENT OF THE COURT.

It is now taken for granted that the Court will return, as an edict is announced to that effect. The season of the year is the coldest,

but careful and elaborate preparations have been made for a safe and comfortable journey.

THE MANCHURIAN QUESTION.

Prince Ching has opened negotiations with M. Lessar, but the result is not known to outsiders. Wang Wen-shao is expected the next few days to assist Prince Ching.—N. C. Daily News.

NANKING.

Nanking, 16th December.

TRADE

has considerably revived at this flourishing port since peace has been restored, and now that there is a certainty of the return of the Court to Peking we confidently expect that the improvement will be permanent.

DROUGHT.

Unfortunately, however, in agricultural matters, the prospect is a very gloomy one. The almost unprecedented floods of the summer were serious indeed, but the prevailing drought is really terrible. The rainfall during the past three months has been practically nil. In consequence, the ponds are with very few exceptions dry, and the wells are at least twenty feet below the usual level. In many cases wells are guarded, for "family use only," and outsiders are prohibited from drawing water from them. There is talk of "praying for snow" publicly. This can only be taken as a symptom, however. If the prayers were accompanied with a little more commonsense action, an answer might be expected. If, for instance, the lazy farmers would set to work and clean out the ponds, and deepen them about 10 or 20 feet, it would be a more real and earnest prayer than the offering of 10,000 sticks of the costliest incense, and indeed, the money spent in candles, incense, and other adjuncts of the prayers would more than pay for these and other equally necessary improvements. A few artesian wells, and wind mills, would remove the evil effects of drought altogether.

A FATAL RUSH FOR CONGEE.

In order to relieve the present distress, the free distribution of "old rice congee," has already commenced. So great was the crowd, and so eager were the poor to get their dole, that 16 persons were fatally injured in the crush a few days ago. This is a disgrace to the official who is managing the business, as there were not enough soldiers to keep order.

BAD MANAGEMENT.

This whole system of relief is an abomination. More than half of those who are thus fed are able bodied, and ought to be at work on public works, and receive regular pay as decent human beings, and not be treated as beasts (and wild beasts at that), who must be fed to keep them from robbery and pillage.

JACK ASHORE.

The recklessness of the parties of foreign sailors and marines that get ashore from the warships in port is becoming a source of danger to pedestrians. Between the vile spirits and the derelict ponies, Jack and his comrades "make things lively" on the Maloo, from Sunday to Saturday. At the risk of making an invidious comparison, it is generally allowed that the U. S. "boys" easily carry off the palm. Quite recently, two Chinamen were brutally assaulted in one afternoon by some marines. The timely interference of a foreigner saved one man from more serious injury. Since that happened, I hear the Captain, and the Vice-Consul have very wisely instituted Prohibition. It remains to be seen whether it prohibits.

BUILDING OPERATIONS

are quite booming just now. A fine new residence is in course of erection for the Commissioner, and also commodious quarters for the In-door Staff. Both these buildings are on the Maloo, near the Naval Academy. The buildings to be occupied by the German Consul are also in course of erection. When these are completed they will add greatly to the comfort of those immediately concerned, and to the beauty of our city.

A new hotel and general store is almost completed. As it stands on the river-side, in a commanding position, and is quite an imposing looking structure, it is to be hoped that the enterprise, while ministering to the general public welfare, will be a success financially.

BRAVO, JAPAN!

A Japanese Imperial Post Office has been established here. According to the scale of charges is used, it is possible to send matter to all parts of China and the world as cheaply and conveniently as from Shanghai. We are greatly pleased at this, as it will tend to bring the Imperial Chinese Post down from its "high perch."

NAVAL.

The warships now here, are:—H. M. S. *Eclipse*, U.S.S. *Wilmington*, and S. M. S. *Schwalbe*.—*Mercury*.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from the *P. & T. Times* of the 14th inst.:—

Peking telegrams give the 3rd and 4th of the eleventh moon (yesterday and to-day) as the probable dates of the Court's departure for Peking. There is much scepticism in the Legations as the arrival before the Spring.

The work of the great cuttings in the Hai-ho improvement scheme is two-thirds finished, as far as the excavations go. An attempt will probably be made to open the new channels during the winter, so as not to interfere with the Spring navigation.

Four dull, foggy, and depressing days in sequence, with a cold dank atmosphere, is a phenomenon all but unknown in Tientsin. The ice which was apparently well set for the season has suffered considerably. Skating is, however, still possible, although not so good as before.

We heard the other day from a friend of Captain Beatty, R.N., D.S.O. the gallant young Commander who so distinguished himself with the *Barfleurs* in the siege of Tientsin, that he has at last had to have his wounded arm amputated. Happily Captain Beatty has now reached such rank that this serious misfortune will in no way interfere with his prospects in the Service he so greatly adorns. We also hear that though he has lost an arm, he has gained a wife.

There has been a marked improvement in the tides at Taku during the week and steamers are getting in and out, though the removal of the buoys, &c., renders it a more tedious and risky business than usual. Monday last saw thirty steamers still outside, but things are much better now. Messrs. Butterfield and Swire have despatched four of their fourteen vessels with full cargoes, and hope to get another eight away within a day or two. Yesterday's tide was 11 feet.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 21st December.

Sir,—As a convenient means of enabling me to communicate to the members of the Hongkong Jockey Club the contents of a letter I addressed to the Stewards of the Club on Monday last, the 16th instant, I beg to send you enclosed a copy of such letter, which I would ask you to kindly publish in the columns of your next issue. My excuse for troubling you is that I think the subject of my letter of sufficient interest to members of the Hongkong Jockey Club and others who take an interest in racing matters to warrant my publishing it. I may add that up to the time of writing this my letter remains wholly unacknowledged. Thanking you in anticipation, I beg to remain, Sir,—Yours, etc.,

GODFREY C. C. MASTER.

(Copy.)

To the Stewards of the Hongkong Jockey Club.
Hongkong, 16th December.

Gentlemen,—On Friday last, I heard that a draft programme had been drawn up for the forthcoming Race Meeting, and that of the 10 races per diem included in such programme 7 were to be reserved for water ponies on each of the first and second days of the meeting and 6 on the third day;

That of these 20 races only three would be open to Hongkong subscription ponies of last

season, and that each of such three races were also open to Shanghai subscription ponies; further that in two of such three races the weight for inch scale was to be only 3 lbs. per inch (fractions of an inch presumably counting in favour of the pony), remaining event being a handicap.

Subsequent enquiries made of two of your number confirmed what I had heard.

I would ask you, gentlemen, before publishing the programme, to ask yourselves if you are not, according to the programme as at present framed, treating owners of Hongkong subscription ponies of last season with a great want of consideration, and whether this want of consideration is not likely to prove very detrimental to racing in the future in Hongkong by holding out to owners no inducement to keep over for the next year's race meeting ponies which have shown fair form. Surely owners of last year's subscription ponies who have kept them for many months at considerable expense are entitled to be able to enter their ponies in more than one race per diem, and not to have to always meet the pick of the Shanghai subscription griffins, which, I believe, originally numbered from 70 to 80, 41 of which were entered and whose height ranges up to 15 hands.

Again, as to the conditions of weight for such races you propose an allowance of only 3 lbs. per inch. Why so? You are aware of the weight for inch scale in force in India and the Malay Peninsula, viz., 3 lbs. for each quarter of an inch, and you are also aware of the unanimous decision arrived at by the owners of this year's subscription ponies (to which, I presume, you attach some weight) viz., that to bring water ponies of different heights together, the scale should be 2 lbs. for each quarter of an inch and not 3 lbs. per inch. That decision as regards the weight for inches to bring water ponies of different heights together must, I submit, surely apply with equal force to all water ponies, whether imported this year or last year or any year, until it has been found to be an incorrect scale, and that another should be adopted, when it will, I submit, be a question to be discussed by you with the owners of ponies.

If you, gentlemen, many of whom were present at the meeting of subscribers at which the decision I have alluded to was arrived at, intended that the 2 lbs. per quarter inch scale should not apply to last year's ponies, why could you not then have so informed the meeting and dispelled the general impression that the 2 lbs. per quarter inch scale was intended to be applied and would be applied to next race meeting generally, instead of making no mention of the matter until now?

I have enquired of several of the members who were present at such meeting of subscribers, and one and all say that they most certainly understood that the scale according to the decision then arrived at would be applied throughout next meeting to all water pony races.

Surely it must be apparent to you that a penalty of only 3 lbs. per inch must give an undue advantage to animals ranging from 14.3 to perhaps 15½ over ponies of 14.2 and under. So far as the scale itself goes, it is unknown outside Hongkong. Under such a scale, a horse of 15½ hands would allow a pony of 14 hands 12 lbs. only: say the 14-hands pony carried 10.7 the 15½ hands horse would carry 11.5, quite insufficient, I submit, to bring them together, assuming both were fair specimens of their class.

I ask you, before you adhere to the programme you have drawn up, to give the owners of ponies an opportunity of meeting you and discussing the question. In order to meet the question for the next meeting I venture to make the following suggestion:—

That of the seven races to be reserved on each of the two first days of the meeting for water ponies, five be reserved exclusively for Hongkong water ponies of this season.

Of the remaining two, one to be reserved for Hongkong water ponies of this and last season at the 2 lbs. per quarter inch scale, ponies of this season receiving an allowance of say 5 lbs., winners at the meeting to carry a penalty.

That the other race should be open to Hongkong and Shanghai subscription ponies of any season, ponies of this season receiving an allowance of 5 lbs., and if you are determined

to try an experiment in the weight for inch scale at 3 lbs. per inch, you can do so in this race.

Owners of Hongkong subscription ponies of last season can, if my suggestions are adopted, select one or other of such two races in which to run their ponies or run them in both, whilst owners of Shanghai griffins can have no cause to grumble, since in Shanghai the weight for inch scale was 4 lbs. per inch: also, such a programme could not be reasonably objected to by any owner of a subscription pony of this season, as, if my recollection serves me right, nothing was said as to six races per diem being reserved exclusively for such subscription ponies. Five were, I think, mentioned, and the probable number of runners in order to procure good fields will scarcely warrant more than five races being so exclusively reserved, to which would be added the option of entering in two other races with an allowance.

On the third day, one race can, as on the two previous days, be confined to Hongkong subscription ponies of this and last season and the handicap be open to Shanghai and Hongkong subscription ponies (of any season), the handicap to be published in the weighing room after the second day's racing and to appear in the evening papers.—I am, gentlemen, yours faithfully,

(Sd.) GODFREY C. C. MASTER.

THE PRIVATE COOLIES COMMISSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
6, Des Vœux Road,
Hongkong, 24th December.

SIR,—I shall feel obliged if you will publish the enclosed correspondence in your columns for the information of numerous enquirers who have asked me what is to be the outcome of the Commission appointed to enquire into and report on the question of the existing difficulty of procuring and retaining reliable chair and jinricksha coolies for private chairs and jinrickshas.—Yours, etc.,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX.

[Enclosures.]

6, Des Vœux Road,
Hongkong, 13th December, 1901.

SIR,—In connection with the Commission to enquire into the question of private chair and jinricksha coolies, on which I had the honour to sit, I beg respectfully to ask whether any action is contemplated in the direction of carrying out the recommendations contained in the report.

I am moved to make this enquiry in consequence of repeated and anxious enquiries that have been addressed to me as to when it is intended to give effect to the Commission's suggestions. The present time is also regarded as most opportune for making trial of the legislation suggested, inasmuch as any temporary strike by the coolies would cause comparatively small inconvenience during the cool weather.

Opinion seems still more unanimous in favour of registration, so far as I can gather, since the Report of the Commission was published, influenced no doubt to some extent by the result of the enquiry, and partly by the evils complained of having become further accentuated. An influential resident, who had been paying his chair coolies \$10 per month, told me the other day that he had been compelled to dismiss them because they were so troublesome, and that he intended, though living on a high level, to do without coolies during the cool weather. Another resident informed me that although he paid good wages and used the coolies sparingly, they had left him suddenly because they had too much work, said work consisting of carrying the chair on an average thrice a day!

Some relief from the present unsatisfactory state of things is anxiously looked for by the majority of the residents and generally considered most desirable, and I trust His Excellency the Governor will see his way to sanction the introduction of registration, which I feel confident would go far to provide a remedy.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. CHATTERTON WILCOX.

Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart,
Colonial Secretary, Hongkong.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
19th December, 1901.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 13th instant, I am directed to inform you that the Government is giving its careful consideration to the Report of the Commission appointed by His Excellency the Governor to enquire into matters concerning private chair coolies.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

R. C. Wilcox, Esq.

RATS AND PLAGUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 20th December.

SIR,—Will you kindly permit me to say a few words with regard to rats and plague through the medium of your paper. It is the general belief that rats have a certain connection with plague, and consequently in order to check plague it is the intention of the Sanitary Board to exterminate rats. But I say it is not so; what we ought to do is to clean the drains and sewers, which is the only means to check it. The mere extermination of rats cannot do any good. We must know that rats live under the ground, where they inhale the bad air and die. Now, if the air there is strong enough to kill the rats it is of course not healthy to the inmates round about. Perhaps it is not known that while cleaning the drains and sewers during the night a very offensive smell springs up (especially in Queen's Road), which is harmful to public health. During the plague season it may be recollected that plague subsided considerably after a heavy fall of rain. I therefore beg to say that the only thing that could prevent plague is the constant washing of the drains, etc., and in order to do this I would suggest that engines should be constructed at various parts of the colony to suck up sea water for the purpose. Thanking you for the insertion of this.—Yours, etc.,

A RESIDENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 23rd December.

SIR,—It must have been with no small sense of satisfaction that the majority of your readers noted on Saturday last that you did not hold yourself responsible for the opinion expressed by your correspondent "A Resident."

When he rushes into print and dictatorially declares that there is no connection between rats and plague, one is very forcibly reminded that fools rush in where angels fear to tread. If allowed to stand uncorrected, "A Resident's" letter might mislead some of your readers with a slighter knowledge of medical matters than "A Resident" appears to possess—presuming that such a thing were possible.

Now, Sir, I will ask you to persuade your didactic correspondent to dissect a rat that has recently died during the height of a plague season—let him remove the spleen, cut it in half and smear on a glass slide some of the serous fluid to be obtained from it; having done this let him request a medical friend to stain the specimen suitably and examine it microscopically and there will be found an almost pure culture of plague bacilli. This proceeding would probably serve two purposes:—

(1.) "A Resident" unless he took suitable precautions would probably disprove in his own person his assertion.

(2.) There would probably be a timely end to such misleading statements from him in the future.—Yours, etc.,

"ONE WHO HAS CARRIED OUT
THE ABOVE EXPERIMENT."

The story circulated in Japan about the proposed Russo-Chinese warship deal is that on the occasion of M. Romanoff's recent visit to Vladivostok, he was strongly urged by the Governor of that place to complete the purchase, and he consented to use his influence on his return to St. Petersburg. The cost of the ships would be deducted from the amount of the Chinese indemnity, or rather indemnity bonds would be handed over to the syndicate that undertook the building of the vessels and have not yet been paid for them.

HIGH-LEVEL TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LD.

The seventeenth annual general meeting of the shareholders in the Hongkong High-Level Tramways Co., Ltd., was held on the 27th inst. in the Company's registered office, 38, Queen's Road Central. Mr. H. Humphreys presided and there were also present Messrs. J. A. Jupp, C. Ewens, J. Orange, J. A. Tarrant, and G. Rapp.

The notice calling the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, I propose with your permission to dispense with the formality of reading the report and statement of accounts, as you are doubtless already familiar with them. The traffic receipts for the year again show a satisfactory increase. The cost of running the line has been somewhat larger than in previous years, owing to considerable additions to the time-table in the early part of the year, and would have been larger still but for the unexpected amount of wear which we have got out of the soft steel rope now in use. We have two new hard steel ropes in stock, but when these are used we do not propose to repeat them. During the year a considerable portion of the permanent way has been relaid with new rails. You will notice that rolling stock has been increased by \$13,382.56 this is principally made up by the cost of two new steel-framed cars from England, which arrived about two months ago and are now being got ready for service on the line. The company will then have three steel-framed cars and two wooden ones. The latter, which are nearly worn out, will be broken up, and for this reason we recommend the writing down of rolling stock by \$5,000. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

No questions were asked.

The CHAIRMAN—Then I beg to move the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. J. A. TARRANT seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN moved that Messrs. C. Ewens, C. W. Dickson, and J. Orange be re-elected as the Consulting Committee.

Mr. J. A. JUPP seconded and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. C. EWENS moved that Messrs. Fullerton Henderson and W. H. Potts be re-elected as auditors.

Mr. J. ORANGE seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

This was all the business.

ENGINEERS' AND SHIP-BUILDERS' BALL.

The annual Ball of the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong took place on the 20th inst. in the City Hall and was a pronounced success. The weather unfortunately was not favourable, for the rain which had prevailed during the two preceding days still continued, but notwithstanding that there was a large attendance the company numbering about 400. The suite of halls was prettily decorated for the occasion, the staircase was decked with greenery and cut flowers, and on the first landing was displayed the emblem of the Institution, set off with electric lights. St. George's Hall and half of St. Andrew's Hall were available for the dancers, the remaining half of the latter being devoted to the purposes of a supper room. Card tables and a bar were also provided. The guests were received in the ante-room by Mr. W. Ramsay, the acting President. Dancing commenced at nine o'clock and continued until an early hour this morning. The opening set was taken part in by Mrs. Ewing, Mr. Gillies, Mrs. Bridger, Mr. Jack, Mrs. Lambert, Mr. Everall, Mrs. Hagen, and Mr. Mitchell. Music was supplied by the band of the 22nd Bombay Infantry. All the arrangements were admirably carried out, thanks to the exertions of Mr. G. F. Miller, Hon. Secretary, and Mr. H. B. Bridger, Chairman of the managing Committee. Besides those gentlemen already mentioned, the following were also to a large extent responsible for the success which attended the Ball:—Messrs. A. Bain and J. W. Kinghorn (Vice-presidents), Mr. D. Gillies and Captain A. Tillett (hon. members), Messrs. W. C. Jack,

E. C. Wilks, J. MacDonald, E. O. Murphy and D. McDonald (members of Council), Messrs. J. R. Mudie, A. G. Ewing, T. Banks, F. J. Price, J. Logan, J. I. Andrews, G. J. B. Sayer, J. Lambert, R. W. Dale, A. Ritchie, W. G. Winterburn, W. M. Everall (Hon. Treasurer), T. W. Robertson (Hon. Librarian), and M. Collins (Manager). The duties of masters of ceremonies were ably performed by Messrs. A. Bain, E. O. Murphy, and J. Lambert.

CRICKET.

CIVILIANS v. UNITED SERVICES.

This match, played on Christmas Day and Boxing Day, ended in an exciting finish in favour of the Civilians. It was lost by the bad fielding of the Services and won by some strenuous hitting on the part of the Civilians. The opening stages were all against H.M.'s land and sea forces, but the game took a turn in their favour, and on the first day's play, with 254 up for 7 wickets, matters looked rosy. Next morning, however, the remaining three wickets added but seven runs. Nevertheless this left the big total of 261 to be faced. The initial movements in the attack on this total were not successful, inasmuch as five wickets fell for 57 runs. Then came a long stand of 139 runs by Ward and Hooper. Ward left at 254, when only eight runs were wanted to win: but another wicket fell at the same total, and the ninth wicket at 258, leaving three to tie and four to win. Thanks to commendable steadiness, Howard survived an over, and Cox had the pleasure of emphasizing the win by a hit for 6 over the pavilion.

For the Services, Wood noticed the situation and at once adopted forcing tactics. He played a grand innings of 66, and was ably helped by Digby, who was, for the most part, steadiness personified, though he, as occasion offered, made some hard off-drives. Then came Franco-Hayhurst, who played delightful cricket, his off-driving and his cutting being excellent: he made an auspicious first appearance, scoring 90 runs and shaping as to the manner born. Fanshawe, who also made his debut, batted successfully.

For the Civilians Ward exceeded all his previous efforts and after playing himself in gave a fine exhibition of powerful and brilliant hitting. He had very good fortune in the earlier part of his innings, for he took risks in forcing the game in a manner which seemed to demoralise the field. The Civilians have to thank him very largely for their win, and hope for repetitions of such a performance. Hooper proved an effective partner and batted far in advance of what he has usually done in first class cricket. Every one was glad to see him come off, especially at so critical a point in the game. He and Ward snatched the game out of the fire. The two P. and O. men subsequently played dashing for 24 and 32 respectively, Cox showing all his well-known coolness and determination despite a bruised hand and a strained forearm.

Smith and Reinold were the most successful bowlers, though, as a fact, Mackenzie trundled as well as any one. On the whole, the fielding of the Services was inferior to that of their opponents, amongst whom, however, at least one man thought that legs were made only to stand on and not to run with. The wicket-keeping on both sides was admirable, each stumper aiding to capture two wickets and allowing but few byes.

The Band of the 22nd Bombay Infantry was present on Boxing Day by permission of Colonel Baillie and the officers, and played a pleasing selection.

Appended are score and analyses:—

UNITED SERVICES.

First Innings.

Lt. Reinold, R.N., c and b Sercombe Smith	2
Mr. C. P. Franklin R.N., c Hooper, b Sercombe Smith	0
Mr. Digby, R.N., c Woodgates, b Sercombe Smith	51
Major Dorehill, R.A., c Arthur, b Sercombe Smith	2
Lieut. Wood, R.N., b Howard	66
Capt. France-Hayhurst, R.W.F., c Woodgates, b Hancock	90
Mr. Fanshawe, R.N., c Arthur, b Hancock	29
Capt. Radcliffe, R.E. b Sercombe Smith	13

Mr. McKinley, R.N., b Mackenzie	1
Capt. Clapham, R.A. c S. Smith, b Mackenzie	0
Mr. Broadbent, R.N., not out	0
Extras	7

Total ... 261

Second Innings.

Lieut. Reinold, R.N., not out	10
Capt. Fanshawe, R.A., c Arthur, b Mackenzie	28
Capt. Clapham, R.A., b Sercombe Smith	0
Mr. Broadbent, R.N., c Cox, b Hancock	18
Mr. Franklin, R.N., b Mackenzie	0
Mr. Digby, R.N., c Lee, b Mackenzie	10
Lieut. Wood, R.N., not out	0
Extras	8

Total (for 5 wickets) ... 89

CIVILIANS.

First Innings.

T. Sercombe Smith, c Radcliffe, b Franklin	0
R. Hancock, c Digby, b McKinley	6
A. Mackenzie, c Clapham, b Franklin	4
A. G. Ward, b Reinold	132
H. Arthur, b McKinley	10
W. E. Dixon, c Broadbent, b McKinley	4
J. Hooper, c Broadbent, b Dorehill	62
J. E. Woodgates, c France-Hayhurst, b Dorehill	24
J. E. Lee, b Reinold	0
P. A. Cox, st Digby, b Reinold	32
W. H. Howard, not out	6
Extras	14

Total ... 294

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

UNITED SERVICES.

First Innings.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Sercombe Smith	19	5	82	5
Mackenzie	17.5	4	40	2
Hancock	14	3	39	2
Howard	5	—	34	1
Dixon	3	—	20	—
Lee	2	—	15	—
Woodgates	5	—	24	—
Fanshawe	3	—	19	—

Second Innings.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Sercombe Smith	5	1	20	1
Mackenzie	12	3	22	3
Hancock	8	1	39	1

CIVILIANS.

First Innings.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
McKinley	18	3	83	3
Franklin	13	1	57	2
Reinold	10	—	49	3
Broadbent	5	1	19	—
Dorehill	12	—	54	2

On the Cricket ground, on the 1st and 2nd January, 1901, the Garrison will play a Club XI of Civilians and Royal Navy.

H.K.C.C. TEAM v. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CHOIR.

This match on the Cricket Ground on the 21st inst. ended in a victory for the Club (who were two short) by 32 runs on the first innings. The Choir made a better show in their second venture. Scores and analysis:—

JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CHOIR.

First Innings.		Second Innings.	
J. G. Smith, c & b Knight	8	b Knight	15
A. Cunningham, b Knight	0	b Knight	0
A. G. Ward, c sub., b Broadbent	1	c Broadbent, b Buttanshaw	52
Broadbent	1		
G. P. Lammert, c Brown, b Broadbent	0	c sub., b Knight	0
L. Lammert, run out	19	c and b Broadbent	0
G. Grimble, b Broadbent	1	b Broadbent	5
J. Hays, b Broadbent	0	b Howard	0
C. W. Marshall, c sub., b Broadbent	1	b Howard	1
W. J. Terrill, b Broadbent	0	b Buttanshaw	0
J. Auld, b Knight	1	b Buttanshaw	5
C. H. P. Hay, run out	0	absent	—
E. Hagen, b Broadbent	0	run out	1
W. Hagen, b Broadbent	0	not out	1
L. Ford, c Chater, b Knight	0	c Knight, b Howard	0
E. C. Emmet, not out	0	c and b Broadbent	4
H. Arthur, absent	—	b Knight	10

Total ... 31 Total ... 94

CLUB TEAM.

F. M. Broadbent, R.N., b L. Lammert	0
Major Buttanshaw, A.S.C., c Marshall, b L. Lammert	1
Capt. H. Rotherham, R.W.F., c Ward, b L. Lammert	21
B. E. Hanson, b G. P. Lammert	0
Knight, R.N., c Grimble, b G. P. Lammert	18
W. Howard, c Auld, b G. P. Lammert	13
P. E. Robertson, lbw., b Grimble	3
C. P. Chater, b G. P. Lammert	3
J. Brown, not out	1
Extras	1

Total ... 63

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

S. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CHOR.

	First Innings.				Second Innings.			
	O.	M.	R.	W.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Broadbent	9	7	2	8	7	1	3	3
Knight	8.1	2	29	4	7	1	41	4
Buttanshaw	—	—	—	—	3	1	6	3
Howard	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	3

CLUB TEAM.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
L. Lammert	5	—	38	3
G. P. Lammert	6.2	1	20	4
Grimble	2	—	4	1

PARSEE C.C. V. CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

This match was played on a very wet ground on the 21st inst. and ended in a victory for the Parsees by one wicket and 17 runs. The following are the scores:—

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

J. P. Jordan, c Commissariat, b Pestonji	5
J. L. Stuart, b Doctor	2
L. A. Rose, run out	4
E. Seth, b Pestonji	3
J. H. Seth, b Doctor	0
R. Wittchell, b Doctor	1
M. E. Asger, not out	12
E. Ford, b Doctor	0
M. H. Harteam c Commissariat, b Pestonji	4
A. E. Asger, b Pestonji	0
J. H. Ruttonji, b Pestonji	3
Extras	9
Total	43

PARSEE C.C.

S. H. Commissariat, run out	24
R. Pestonji, c Rose, b Stuart	0
M. J. Doctor, c M. E. Asger, b Stuart	0
R. B. Cooper, c J. Seth, b Stuart	7
B. K. Mehta, c Ford, b Jordan	0
J. M. Master, c and b Harteam	3
D. R. Captain, b Jordan	10
B. D. Tata, b Harteam	0
C. B. Movrawala, c J. Seth, b Stuart	15
A. B. Avasia, not out	0
N. Bezonji, b Jordan	0
Extras	1
Total for 9 wickets	60

FOOTBALL.

CHALLENGE SHIELD—H CO., R.W.F. V. ROYAL ENGINEERS.

In the first round of the Challenge Shield competition, H Co. of the R.W.F. played a team from the Royal Engineers on the 21st inst. at Happy Valley, before a fairly large attendance of spectators.

The teams were:—

R.W.F.—Goal, T. Whitney; backs, A. Smart and J. Edwards; half-backs, W. Roberts, J. Pownall and W. Sweet; forwards, J. Pugh, W. Williams, J. Shields, J. Walters, and G. Dobbs.
R.E.—Goal, Lt.-Corporal Widdows; backs, Corp. Dagnall, and Corp. Thornhill; half-backs, Corp. Rutter, Corp. MacDonald, and Lieut. Caulfield; forwards, Corp. Hills, Sapper Hemmings, Sapper Long, Corp. Walker, and Corp. Nolan.

Referee, Mr. W. Russell.

Linesmen, Private L. Jones and Sapper Kerrigan.

The Engineers won the toss, but failed to get away from the centre kick and very soon the Fusiliers invaded their territory. Pugh finishing up a nice run with a stinging shot which almost beat Widdows. The R.E. had a look-in before many minutes had elapsed but only a bye resulted. In the opening stages of the game play was very fast and an exciting match was confidently looked for by the spectators. The heavy defence of the Engineers stopped many likely-looking rushes. Walker and Nolan on the Engineers' left wing put in some splendid work, evincing both speed and trickiness. When the game was ten minutes gone Whitney cleared in first-class manner in an attack at close quarters resulting from a free kick. Soon afterwards the Engineers' goal had an almost miraculous escape. Williams assisted by Pugh carried the ball right down the wing, outdistanced the whole field and shot hard when only a few yards from goal. But his shot went right into Widdows's hands, and he cleared at the expense of a corner. The Engineers were not slow in returning the visit. The right wing got the ball well down the pitch and with a beautiful long slanting shot Hills scored the first goal of the match. In the next

few succeeding minutes Widdows's charge was no sinecure. Several times he was called upon to save. The expected happened when at last the Fusiliers scored the equalising goal. Shields got away with a splendid run solus. He wriggled his way through the defence and when a few yards from goal sent in a lightning shot. The ball hit the goal post and rebounded into play, but in doing so it struck Thornhill, the left back, and slipped into the net. Soon Shields got away with another rush, but he sent the ball too far in front in approaching the goal and Widdows managed to clear.

Half-time result—R. W. F., 1 goal; R. E., 1 goal.

The opening passages in the second half were very fast. Caulfield, the R. E. left half, kept his wing well fed and at the end of a few minutes' play Walker and Nolan forced a corner. The corner-kick was wide, however, and the ball was very quickly transferred to the other end of the field. Dobbs got well away on the run towards the Engineers' goal but he palpably fouled the ball and play was again carried to centre. Rutter now got the leather nicely at his foot and sent in a fine shot to Whitney. The latter made no mistake, and saved by punting out. Smart at right back was putting in some some excellent work; he stopped several ugly rushes. Pugh had another try at the R.E. goal, but Widdows was all there. In fact he had need to be in the next ten minutes, for his charge was again and again assailed. But he cleared every time, and showed admirable goal-keeping powers. Play continued to be fast right until the end. In the last five minutes the game was most pluckily contested. But despite their redoubled efforts neither side could secure the all-desired winning point. Each end was visited several times, but when the whistle blew the score remained unchanged, 1 goal each. In these circumstances it was decided to play extra 30 minutes. Before a couple of these had gone both goal-keepers had been called upon to handle the leather; before the third had passed, the Fusiliers had scored. The honour for this goal belonged to Pugh. He fought his way pluckily up the wing past half-backs and backs, right to the goal-mouth, and slipped the ball neatly past Widdows. Ends were changed without any further goals having been scored. When the change did come, however, the Fusiliers returned to the attack and were successful in again adding a point, Williams doing the needful with a long swift shot. It was now too dark to allow the game to proceed and Referee Russell applied the closure when about 7 minutes remained to be played.

Score—H Co., R.W.F., 3 goals; R.E., 1 goal.

On account of the whole of the extra half-hour not being played, the referee, in accordance with No. 12 of the H.K.C.S. Rules, declared the game drawn. The teams will probably meet again on Tuesday, December 31, at 4 o'clock.

The Football Club played a Rugby match v. H.M.S. *Blenheim* on the 23rd and lost by a goal and a try to nil.

On the 24th inst. the H.K.F.C. beat a team of Officers of H.M. Navy by 2 goals to nil.

The Association football match on the 26th inst. between a H.K.F.C. team and the R.E. ended in a victory for the latter by 2 goals to nil. The game was of a holiday nature.

Frequent brushes with the insurgents are reported from the Philippines. Near Santa Cruz, Laguna, three U.S. privates were wounded. We still continue to hear of a number of renegades with the Filipinos.

The Resident-Superior at Pnompenh has informed the Chamber of Commerce there that he hopes to obtain, in the next general budget, provision for a powerful dredger, which, with the one already in the possession of the local Government, will render all the waterways navigable. He also supports the Chamber in their desire to see Pnompenh created a free port. It was recently pointed out by the Resident-Superior that Pnompenh was the port for the paddy-exported from Battambang and Siemrap as well as for the paddy grown in Cambodia, and the freeing of the port would give a great impetus to trade.

HONGKONG.

The Hon. W. Meigh Goodman, K.C., has been elected a member of the Church Body, vice Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., resigned.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Thursday, the 2nd prox., will be observed as a public holiday, in addition to the 25th and 26th inst. and the 1st prox.

We have received the December number of the *Yellow Dragon*, the organ of Queen's College. It contains some remarks appropriate to the season, articles, correspondence (including a letter from Dr. Bateson Wright), cricket scores, etc.

The police report the drowning of a Chinese woman in the harbour, as the result of the capsizing of a cargo-boat. The boat was upset by the wash of a passing launch. All its eight occupants were thrown into the water but seven were saved.

The crew, 17 in number, of a junk which was run down and sunk by the s.s. *Idzuma Maru* about two days' sail north of Hongkong have been brought into the port and handed over to the care of the Registrar General. Escape was effected by the boats, and all were saved.

Damage to the extent of \$1,600 was caused by a fire which occurred in a house in Kowloon City. A warrant for the seizure of opium was being executed in the house when an excise officer accidentally set fire to a jacket and that in turn to some straw. Eventually the whole building was destroyed.

"Fairplay" sends an account of a street occurrence as showing the uselessness of the Chinese lukongs for police purposes. At 8.30 on Friday morning, he says, "there was a fight in Elgin Street, in which there were about eight chair coolies beating one. The man was severely beaten and bleeding. A lukong walked up just in time, the crowd dispersed, and that was the end of it. He saw the man bleeding but paid no attention, as far as I saw, to his complaint. These chair coolies of Elgin Street are a nuisance; there are always cowardly fights like this taking place among them."

The Church Body has issued a circular to the seat-holders and subscribers of S. John's Cathedral, informing them that, in view of the resignation of the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, Senior Chaplain, which will take effect on the 31st March, they have appointed the Rev. F. T. Johnson Senior Chaplain. Mr. Johnson, whose appointment as Assistant Chaplain was to expire in February next, having to return home owing to urgent private affairs, the Church Body consented to terminate his present agreement, and he has left Hongkong, coming out on the new agreement to take up his post on the 1st August. The Rev. R. F. Cobbold stays till the end of March, when the Rev. S. A. Bunbury, of S. Paul's College, has undertaken to supply the Cathedral services until Mr. Johnson's arrival. Steps were taken in the early part of October to procure a new Assistant Chaplain from England, but the Church Body as yet has heard nothing definite about the matter.

A very enjoyable concert took place on Christmas Day at the Government Civil Hospital. Among the audience were H. E. the Governor, Lady Gascoigne, Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge, Commodore and Mrs. and Miss Powell. The entertainment commenced with a pianoforte duet, "Henry VIII Dances," by Messrs. G. Grimble and A. G. Ward. Mrs. Mudie sang "Bonnie Prince Charlie" in her accustomed artistic fashion. Captain J. H. G. Casserly, 2nd B.I., gave a couple of good songs from *San Toy*, namely, "Rhoda and the Pagoda" and "I mean to introduce it into China." Mr. W. G. Worcester contributed a recitation and also a comic song, "Sweet Little Lady," which created much amusement and for which he was awarded an encore. Violin selections by Mr. C. H. Dale, R.W.F., added not a little to the attractiveness of the concert. The other artistes were Mrs. Badeley, who sang "Violets;" Mrs. D. E. Brown, who rendered Adam's "Noel" and Rogers's "April Weather;" and Mr. P. W. Goldring, whose song, "Mary," was very well sung. The concert was brought to a close by the singing of the carols, "God rest you, merry gentlemen" and "The Manger Throne." Lady Gascoigne distributed the presents off the Christmas tree after the entertainment.

The only case of communicable disease reported in the Colony last week was one of small-pox. No details of the case are to hand.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week were 386 non-Chinese and 173 Chinese to the former and 126 non-Chinese and 1,416 Chinese to the latter institution.

The return of deaths in the Colony during November shows a total of 34 in the European and foreign community (civilians 28, Army 5, Navy 1) and 408 in the Chinese community. 114 deaths were due to chest affections (10 in the European and foreign community) and 62 to malarial fever. The principle averages in the different registration districts were:—British and foreign community, civil, 35.1 per 1,000 per annum; Chinese, Victoria, land 19.1, harbour 10.6; Chinese, whole colony, land 18.3, boat 12.1, land and boat 17.4: whole civil community, 18.0.

H. E. Senhor Conselheiro José d'Azevedo Castello-Branco, the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for Portugal to the Chinese Court, accompanied by H.E. the Governor of Macao, was a passenger on the 24th inst. by the steamer *Heungshan* from Macao. They were received on board by the Portuguese Consul General, Senhor Conselheiro Romano. His Excellency came over to confer with Senhor I. Batalha de Freitas, Portuguese Chargé d'Affairs in Japan, who is proceeding home by the German mail steamer *König Albert*. Their Excellencies Senhores Branco and Horta e Costa returned to Macao by the *Heungshan*. We understand that the Minister and his suite are leaving for Peking by the French mail on the 31st instant.

H.M.S. *Endymion* returned from Manila on the 23rd inst. H.M.S. *Redpole* came back from Canton.

On the 26th inst. H.M.S.S. *Cressy* and *Pique* left for Mirs Bay. The French cruiser *Styx* and German gunboat *Ilitis* proceeded to Canton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Over \$2,000 have been collected at present for the monument to Rizal, the Filipino patriot, the fund for which is being looked after by Sr. Paterno.

Since the new Customs duties at Vladivostok came into operation in January last, the import trade at that port has been greatly affected, and the shipments from Japan of black tea and soy into that port have almost ceased for some time. Last year the import of these articles into Vladivostok amounted to 663,063 yen but up to the end of November last the value had receded to 444,361 yen.

It is reported from Kiaochau that recently more than ten parties of four men each were sent from the German garrison force at Tientsin to that part of Shantung which lies to the north of the Yellow River, to sketch and survey the place, and that before the parties arrived at Shantung the Board of Regency at Peking wired to the local officials, announcing their coming, and ordering that they should be properly protected.

The question relating to looting of Chinese by the Japanese soldiers during the recent North China campaign, which is attracting public attention in Japan at present, will not be investigated until the return to Tokyo of Baron Kodama, the War Minister. At the Military Department it is stated that if the charge is proved severe punishment will be meted out to the officers and men who participated in the looting.

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 27th December.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 27th December.—The downward tendency continues, market, being dull. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.60 to \$8.65 pcl.
do. " 2, White.....	7.65 to 7.70 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	5.75 to 5.80 "
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.65 to 5.70 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.45 to 8.50 "
do. " 1, White.....	7.55 to 7.60 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ...	5.65 to 5.70 "
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.50 to 5.55 "
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.60 to 12.65 "
Shekloong "	10.45 to 10.50 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 27th December.—Prices continue going upward, market being brisk. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.55 to 2.60
" Round, Good quality	3.65 to 3.70
" Long	3.90 to 3.95
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	2.70 to 2.75
" Garden, " No. 1	3.30 to 3.35
" White.....	3.80 to 3.85
" Fine Cargo	4.10 to 4.15

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS

Per P. & O. steamer *Borneo*, sailed on the 10th December. For Manchester:—128 bales waste silk. For London opt. Manchester:—110 bales waste silk. For London opt. Goole:—450 bales waste silk. For London:—2 cases cigars from Manila, 4 bales hemp from Manila, 3,308 boxes tea, 330 boxes tea, 115 bales waste silk, 150 bales bambooware, 145 bales canes, 40 cases bristles, 22 trusses camlets, 37 cases Chinaware, 26 cases blackwoodware, 4 cases silks, 3 cases embroideries, 4 chests Persian opium, 2 cases bird feathers, 4 cases merchandise.

Per steamer *Achilles*, sailed on the 12th December. For London:—1,671 boxes tea scented caper=35,991 lbs., 320 boxes tea from Macao (particulars unknown), 200 bales waste silk, 150 bales feathers, 90 bales wool, 69 bales hemp, 200 cases ginger, 58 cases Chinaware, 19 pkgs. naval stores, 11 pkgs. sundries. For Glasgow:—2 pkgs. sundries.

Per steamer *Ville de la Ciotat*, sailed on the 16th December. For Marseilles:—383 bales raw silk, 26 cases silk, 69 pkgs. tea, 4 pkgs. bamboo, 1 camphor trunk. For Lyons:—676 bales raw silk. For Havre:—58 pkgs. mats and matting. For London:—10 bales raw silk, 50 cases essential oil.

Per steamer *Ixon*, sailed on the 18th December. For Liverpool:—5,402 bales hemp, 39 bales rope, 1 case cigars, 1 case curios. For Manchester:—250 bales waste silk.

Per P. & O. steamer *Chusan*, sailed on the 21st December. For London:—65 bales raw silk, 4 cases silks, 4 bales waste silk sample, 3 cases Chinaware, 2 cases private effects, 2 cases lacq. table, 1 case cigars, 15 1/2 chests tea. For Lyons:—239 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—432 bales raw silk, 2 cases silks. For London opt. Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For Manchester:—70 bales waste silk.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 27th December.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*: 1,650 bales No. 10 at \$82 to \$92, 750 bales No. 12 at \$90 to \$94, 150 bales No. 16 at \$98 to \$101.50, 1,250 bales No. 20 at \$101 to \$115. *Gray Shirtings*: 900 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Joss (1) at \$3.52 1/2. *White Shirtings*: 300 pieces E H at \$6.70, 300 pieces D K at \$5.70.

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	2.50 to 4.00
METALS—	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	4.25 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.	4.30 to —
Swedish Bar	6.75 to —
Small Round Rod	4.85 to —
Hoop 1/2 to 1 1/2 in.	5.25 to —
Wire 15/25	8.75 to —
Old Wire Rope	2.50 to —
Pig Non	35.50 to 36.50
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop ..	7.75 to —
Australian	7.60 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	40.50 to —
Vivian's 14/20 oz.	40.00 to —
Elliot's 14/20 oz.	40.00 to —
Composition Nails.....	58.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs.....	41.00 to —
Tin.....	69.00 to —
Tin-Plates	7.50 to —
Steel 1/2 to 1	5.25 to —
SUNDRIES—	per picul
Quicksilver	168.00 to —
Window Glass	6.30 to —
Kerosene Oil.....	2.27 to —

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$74.00 to \$116.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.10 to 2.20
7 lbs.	2.30 to 2.50
8 1/2 lbs.	2.80 to 3.50
9 to 10 lbs.	3.60 to 4.55
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.35 to 2.60
58 to 60 "	3.05 to 4.00
64 to 66 "	4.10 to 5.75
Fine.....	5.20 to 7.30
Book-folds	4.20 to 5.25
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.73 to 1.20
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.60 to 1.80
7lbs. (32 ")	1.90 to 2.20
6lbs. (32 ")	1.85 to 2.05
7lbs. (32 ")	2.75 to 3.25
8 to 8 1/2 oz., (36 in.)	2.85 to 3.40
Drills, English—40 yds., 13 1/2 to 14 lbs.	4.00 to 6.75

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/2 to 8 lbs.	1.45 to 3.60
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BROCADES—Dyed

DAMASKS—

Chintzes—Assorted	— to —
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22 to 0.50
Velveteens—18 in.	0.21 to 0.28

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk

WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.02 1/2 to 1.70
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 3.00
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	6.35 to 8.10
Assorted.....	6.45 to 8.20
Camlets—Assorted.....	12.00 to 30.75
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches }	11.00 to 17.00
Assorted }	
Orleans—Plain	— to —

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 27th December.—The Christmas holidays which have intervened since our last report have interfered considerably with the business of the week, and there are few transactions to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have sold in small lots at \$620. The London quotation remains at £62. 10s. Nationals have sold at \$26 1/2 and \$27 and are still enquired for.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have sold at \$345, and more shares are obtainable. China Traders are wanted at \$52. Other stocks unchanged.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Chinas have been placed at \$87 1/2. Hongkongs are quiet at \$365.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao are still in demand at \$36. Indo-Chinas are weaker at \$140—ex the interim dividend of 4 per cent. (= \$4.30 per share) paid on the 24th instant—with sellers. China Manilas have been booked at the reduced rate of \$60. Donglases are offering at \$47. Star Ferries continue on offer at \$24 and \$9 for the old and new issues respectively. Shell Transports can probably be placed at the closing quotation of £2. 12s. 6d.

MINING.—Punjoms are offering at \$5 after sales at the rate. Other stocks quiet but unchanged.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars are in the market at \$152. Luzons are unaltered at \$26 with probable buyers.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have sold in small lots at \$290. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves are unchanged at \$94 sellers. New Amoy Docks have improved to \$28 with buyers.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands are to be had at \$195. Kowloon Lands are quieter with sellers at \$33. Hongkong Hotels have sold and are still obtainable at \$138. Rumphreys Estates have been booked at \$14.

COTTON MILLS.—No business to report under this head, and quotations are unaltered.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Manila Investments have further weakened to \$45 with sellers. Green Island Cements have sold at \$22. A. S. Watsons can be obtained at \$15 1/2. Electrics (old) are offering at \$13, and the new issue at \$6 1/2.

China Providents continue in request at \$94. In other stocks under this head we have no business to report and quotations are unchanged.

MEMO.—Dairy Farm Co., Ltd., extraordinary general meeting on the 10th January, 1902.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	{ \$620. L'don, £62. 10s.
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	£1.
Do. deferred	£1	nominal.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$27, buyers
B. Shares	£8	\$27, buyers
Foun. Shares...	£1	\$15.
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	£1	\$1.
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$21, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$38.
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$20.
China Prov. L. & M....	\$10	\$31, buyers
China Sugar	\$100	\$152, sellers
Cigar Companies—		
Albion Limited...	\$500	\$500, nominal.
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.)	\$50	\$52.
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 42.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 30.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 150.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 1.
Hongkong	\$100	\$131.
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$11.
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$55, sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$22, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric {	\$5	\$13, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$290, buyers
Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$8, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$138, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$195.
H. & K. Wharf & G....	\$50	\$94, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$175.
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$290.
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$155, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$87, sales
China Traders	\$25	\$52, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$365.
North China	£25	Tls. 180, buyers
Straits	\$20	nominal.
Union	\$50	\$345, sales & sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$130, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$105, sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$14, sales & sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$33.
West Point Building	\$50	\$65, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$26.
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$45, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$375, buyers
Jebeu	\$5	\$4, sellers
Queen's Mines, Ltd....	25c.	4 cents.
Oliver's Mines, A....	\$5	nominal.
Do. B....	\$4	nominal.
Punjom	\$10	\$5, sellers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1, sellers
Raub	\$18	\$10, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6	\$28, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$56.
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$9, sales
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$60, sales
China Mutual Pref.	£10	£10.
Do. Ordinary	£7. 10	£7. 10s.
Do. Bonus	£5	£5.
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$47, sellers
H., Canton and M....	\$15	\$36, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$140, x div., sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	£1	£2. 12s. 6d.
Star Ferry	\$10	{ \$21, sellers { \$9, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co....	\$5	\$1.
United Abestos	\$4	\$9, buyers
Do	\$10	\$15.
Universal Trading {	\$5	\$20, buyers
Co., Ltd.		
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$10.
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$15, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 18th December (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). **INSURANCE.**—Marine. China Traders changed hands at \$54; Yangtszes were placed at \$130 and are wanted; Straits Insurance Co. Ltd. (in Liq.) shares are enquired for. Fire stocks are quiet. **SHIPPING.**—Indo-China S. N. Co. Shares sold for 31st inst., at Tls. 100.50 and are offering; settlements were made for January, 107, March 111, 110.50, 111, 109.50 and 109, June 113, 112, July 115; Shell Transport shares have been in demand and were taken at £3. 0s. 0d. China Mutual S. N. Co. shares are offering. China Merchants' S. N. Co. shares were placed at Tls. 105 for January. **SUGARS.**—Peraks sold at Tls. 75, 76 and 76.50. China are offering. **MINING.**—Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd. Cash purchases were made at Tls. 8.50 to 8.75, the market closing steady at last rate. Forward prices were erratic; 31st settlement Tls. 8.75, 8.50, 8.40, 8.50, March 8.75, 8.90, 8.80, June 9.00. Raubs have receded to sales and sellers at \$11. **DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.**—S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co., Ltd. An interim dividend of 7 per cent. is advertised payable on 10th January, 1902, to those shareholders whose names are on register on 2nd January, 1902. Cash rates rose to Tls. 252.50 and a sale was reported at 255; later the market dropped to 250, closing with sales and sellers. The following are the settlements 31st instant, 250, 252.50, 250, January, February 257.50, March 260, 262.50, 260, April 265, June 270, 272.50, Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co., Ltd. An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders was held on 17th inst., who approved of the Directors' proposals to amend and add to the Deed of Settlement of the Company in regard to provisions for increasing the Capital for defining and extending the borrowing powers of the board, for altering the quorum necessary for meetings and for treating more in detail for the general management and working of the Company. Shares changed hands at Tls. 302.50 and 305. **LANDS** have been in request, but without sellers at quotation. **INDUSTRIAL.**—Majors were placed at Tls. 40 and are offering. Gas shares are wanted. Ewo Cotton Mills sold at Tls. 45 cash and 50 June. Soy Chee Cotton Mills changed hands at Tls. 150. Ice shares are offering. Flour Mills were taken at Tls. 44; Cigarettes are offering; Pulp sold at Tls. 96 cash, 100 for 31st inst. and 102.50 for January; Cements were bought at \$22. **TUGS AND CARGO BOATS** are quiet. **MISCELLANEOUS.**—Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Cash sales took place at Tls. 330, Tls. 332.50, the market closing steady. Settlements were made for 31st inst. at Tls. 330, Tls. 332.50, February 340, March 345, 350, May 355, 350, 355, June 360. Sumatra Tobacco shares were placed at Tls. 40. The Debenture Loan of \$50,000 will be paid off on 31st December and not on 21st December as previously advertised. Central Stores sold at \$20, Hall and Holtz \$37.50, Telephones at Tls. 60 and Astor Hotels at \$285. **DEBENTURES.**—6 per cent. Investments are still wanted.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

SATURDAY, 28th December.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/104
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10- ⁵ / ₈
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1 10 ¹ / ₂
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10- ¹ / ₂
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10- ¹ / ₂
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10- ¹ / ₂
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.33 ¹ / ₂
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.37 ¹ / ₂
ON GERMANY.—On demand	1.89 ¹ / ₂
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	45 ¹ / ₂
Credits, 60 days' sight	46 ¹ / ₂
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	138 ¹ / ₂
Bank, on demand	139
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	138 ¹ / ₂
Bank, on demand	139
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	73
Private, 30 days' sight	73 ¹ / ₂
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	9 ¹ / ₂
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	2 ¹ / ₂
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	par
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	112 ¹ / ₂

ON HAIPHONG.—

On demand	1 ¹ / ₂
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1 ¹ / ₂
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	60 ¹ / ₂
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	10.70
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	55
BAR SILVER per oz.	25 ¹ / ₂

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—*Kanagawa Maru* (str.).
FOR LONDON.—*Valetta* (str.), *Java* (str.), *Deucalion* (str.), *Peleus* (str.), *Glenfarg* (str.), *Kanagawa Maru* (str.), *Stentor* (str.), *Ajase* (str.), *Idomeneus* (str.).
FOR LIVERPOOL.—*Tantalus* (str.), *Patroclus* (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES.—*Yarra* (str.), *Kanagawa Maru* (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—*Prinzess Irene* (str.), *Nuernberg* (str.), *Sambie* (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Ambria* (str.), *Serbia* (str.), *Sambia* (str.), *C. Ferd. Laeisz* (str.), *Nuernberg* (str.), *Strassburg* (str.).
FOR ROTTERDAM.—*Nuernberg* (str.), *Strassburg* (str.).
FOR TRIESTE.—*Maria Valerie* (str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Victoria* (str.), *Kinshiu Maru* (str.), *Ijo Maru* (str.).
FOR VANCOUVER.—*Empress of China* (str.), *Tartar* (str.).
FOR NEW YORK.—*Asama* (str.), *Oreosay* (str.).
FOR PORTLAND (Or.).—*Indravelli* (str.).
FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—*Airlie* (str.), *Kumano Maru* (str.), *Chingtu* (str.).
FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—*Kagoshima Maru* (str.).
FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, AND CALCUTTA.—*Laisang* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

December—
20, Dr. H. J. Kiaer, Norw. str., from Haiphong.
20, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.
20, West York, British bark, from Callao.
21, Babelsberg, German str., from Manila.
21, Bengal, British str., from Bombay.
21, Choysang, British str., from Canton.
21, Emma, German str., from Wuhu.
21, Flandria, German str., from Canton.
21, Hongwan I, British str., from Singapore.
21, Independent, German str., from Canton.
21, Serbia, German str., from Kobe.
21, Silesia, German str., from Hamburg.
21, Taksang, British str., from Bangkok.
21, Thales, British str., from Pakhoi.
21, Waterwitch, British s.s., from a cruise.
22, Chiynen, American str., from Shanghai.
22, Daybreak, British str., from Swatow.
22, Haiching, British str., from Amoy.
22, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
22, Mara Kolb, German str., from Moji.
22, Pique, British cruiser, from Shanghai.
22, Polamhall, British str., from New York.
22, Trifos, German str., from Singapore.
22, Trym, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
23, Apenrade, German str., from Haiphong.
23, D'Entrecarteaux, French flag ship, from Japan.
23, Diamante, British str., from Manila.
23, Endymion, British cruiser, from Manila.
23, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
23, Hanyang, British str., from Canton.
23, Keongwai, German str., from Ang Hin.
23, Kawachi Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
23, Quartz, German str., from Canton.
23, Redpole, British gunboat, from Canton.
23, Shantung, British str., from Java.
23, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
23, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
23, Laisang, British str., from Calcutta.
24, Changchow, British str., from Tongku.
24, Foochow, British str., from Taku.
24, Glenroy, British str., from Foochow.
24, Haitan, British str., from Swatow.
24, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
24, Katsuyama Maru, Jap. str., from Chefoo.
24, Konig Albert, Ger. str., from Yokohama.
24, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
24, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
24, Taishun, American str., from Shanghai.
24, Teenkai, British str., from Tacoma.
24, Ailsa Craig, British str., from Moji.
24, Canton, British str., from Chinkiang.
24, Glancus, British str., from Foochow.

24. Hangsang, British str., from Barry.
 24. Krarven, Norwegian str., from Moji.
 25. Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 25. Deuteros, German str., from Saigon.
 25. Elita Nossak, German str., from Canton.
 25. Empress of China, Brit. str., from V. convey.
 25. Hailong, British str., from Coast Port.
 25. Indrani, British str., from Manila.
 25. Kaahing, British str., from Chinkiang.
 25. Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
 25. Sissol Veliky, Russian ship, from Nagasaki.
 25. Stentor, British str., from Liverpool.
 25. Tingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 25. Wakasa Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 26. Amoy, German str., from Moji.
 26. Chingtu, British str., from Sydney.
 26. Elsa, German str., from Hongay.
 26. Hatasa, British str., from Manila.
 26. Sullberg, German str., from Haiphong.
 26. Thea, German str., from Haiphong.
 26. Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from Kutchinotzu.
 26. J. ya, British str., from Foochow.
 27. Chelydra, British str., from Java.
 27. Hongmoh, British str., from Singapore.
 27. Hopsang, British str., from Moji.
 27. Kong Beng, German str., from Bangkok.
 27. Kwangping, British str., from Taku.
 27. Kweilin, British str., from Tongku.
 27. Nanchang, British str., from Tientsin.
 27. Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
 28. Chiyuen, Amr. str., from Canton.
 28. Chasseloup-Laubat, Fr. cr., from Nagasaki.
 28. Elderton, British str., from Wellington.
 28. Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.
 28. Ho-ha, French str., from Pakhoi.
 28. Else, German str., from Taku.
 28. Ancing Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Port.
 29. Brand, Norwegian str., from Moji.
 29. Kwangles, British str., from Shanghai.
 29. Yarra, French str., from Shanghai.

DEPARTURES.

21. Cheong H. Kian, Dutch str., for Amoy.
 21. Choyang, British str., for Swatow.
 21. Chusan, British str., for Europe.
 21. Devonshire, British str., for Moji.
 21. Frigga, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 21. Kaifong, British str., for Iloilo.
 21. Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 21. Radnorshire, British str., for Bangkok.
 21. Robt. Dickinson, Brit. str., for Balik Papan.
 21. Tacoma, American str., for Kobe.
 22. Bengal, British str., for Shanghai.
 22. Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 22. Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
 22. Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 22. Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 22. Independant, German str., for Chefoo.
 22. Kweiyang, British str., for Samarang.
 22. Michael Jebson, German str., for Hoihow.
 22. Pakshian, British str., for Moji.
 22. Tordenskjold, Norw. str., for Samarang.
 23. Athesia, German str., for New York.
 23. Chiyuen, American str., for Haiphong.
 23. Clar, German str., for Haiphong.
 23. Fausang, British str., for Yokohama.
 23. Hanyang, British str., for Shanghai.
 23. Hunsang, British str., for Singapore.
 23. Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 23. Michael Jebson, German str., for Hoihow.
 23. Quarta, German str., for Chinkiang.
 24. Arratoon Apar, Brit. str., for Calcutta.
 24. Babelsberg, German str., for Shanghai.
 24. Changchow, British str., for Canton.
 24. Dapine, German str., for Nagasaki.
 24. Daybreak, American str., for Shanghai.
 24. Descartes, French cruiser, for Saigon.
 24. Dr. H. J. Kiser, Norw. str., for Haiphong.
 24. Elandria, German str., for Shanghai.
 24. Geo. T. Hay, British ship, for New York.
 24. Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 24. Hongwan I, British str., for Amoy.
 24. J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 24. J. Hennox, British str., for Singapore.
 24. Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 24. Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
 24. Thalys, British str., for Pakhoi.
 25. Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.
 25. Apenrade, German str., for Hoihow.
 25. Diamante, British str., for Manila.
 25. Glauous, British str., for London.
 25. Glenest, British str., for Shanghai.
 25. Glenroy, British str., for Singapore.
 25. Haitan, French str., for Hoihow.
 25. Hne, French str., for Kwong-chow-wan.
 25. Katsuyama Maru, Jap. str., for Canton.
 25. Kawachi Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 25. Mara Kolb, German str., for Moji.

25. Peiyang, German str., for Saigon.
 25. Serbia, German str., for Hamburg.
 25. Silesia, German str., for Yokohama.
 25. Taksang, British str., for Bangkok.
 25. Trym, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
 25. Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., for K. notzu.
 26. Canton, British str., for Canton.
 26. Cressy, British cruiser, for Mirs Bay.
 26. Iltis, German gunboat, for Canton.
 26. Konig Albert, German str., for Europe.
 26. Pique, British cruiser, for Mirs Bay.
 26. Styx, French cruiser, for Canton.
 26. Tingsang, British str., for Canton.
 26. Hangsang, British str., for Chefoo.
 26. Indrani, British str., for Shanghai.
 26. Maidzur Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 26. P. C. Sao, German str., for Bangkok.
 26. Taishun, American str., for Canton.
 27. Hailong, British str., for Swatow.
 27. Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 27. J. B. Walker, Amr. bark, for Yokohama.
 27. Keongwai, German str., for Bangkok.
 27. Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 27. Sten or, British str., for Shanghai.
 27. Teenkai, British str., for Manila.
 27. Thyra, Norw. str., for San Francisco.
 27. Victoria, British str., for Tacoma.
 27. Wakasa Maru, Japanese str., for London.
 27. Waterwitch, British s.s. for a cruise.
 27. Wongkoi, German str., for Bangkok.
 28. Brinkburn, British str., for Samarang.
 28. Haas Menzell, German str., for Manila.
 28. Java, British str., for London.
 28. Pax, Belgian str., for Saigon.
 28. Princeton, U.S. gunboat, for Manila.
 28. Ailsa Craig, British str., for Moji.
 28. Hatasa, British str., for Mororan.
 28. Wakasa Maru, Jap. str., for London.
 29. Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 29. Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 29. Indravelli, British str., for Portland (Or.).
 29. Kansu, British str., for Moji.
 29. Shantung, British str., for Java.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Mrs. and Miss Skinner, Mr. and Mrs. Chenoweth and Mr. T. McDonald.
 Per *Haiching*, from Amoy, &c.; Mr. and Mrs. Pearn and two children and Mr. Eduard.
 Per *Bengal*, from London, for Hongkong, via Bombay, Calcutta and Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Hurst; for Hongkong, from London, Mrs. Presley and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Ruegg, Lieut. and Mrs. Staple, Mr. and Mrs. Hussey, Lieut. and Mrs. Townley and child, Capt. Hewett, Sergt.-Major Alwark, Foreman Gimblett, Messrs. Pope, Cock, Bull and Tuckwell; from Marseilles, Mr. Humphreys; from Bombay, Messrs. F. Dewjeebhoy, R. Boomarbhoy and S. J. Katnick; from Singapore, Messrs. E. H. Pugh, Fashits, P. Roza and Sirdar Khan; for Shanghai, from London, Mr. F. Olle; from Marseilles, Lieut.-Comdr. Wyndham Forbes, Messrs. Rellberg and Liddell and son; from Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Gazdar.
 Per *American Mail*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. K. M. Airy, Mrs. S. La Gravy, Mrs. I. Needham, Mrs. I. Adamson, Mrs. C. H. Bartlett, Mrs. C. C. Faxon, Capt. and Mrs. G. M. Audian, Rev. and Mrs. E. P. Dunlop, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Real, Miss K. Real, Mr. E. P. T. Real, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Saunders, Rev. and Mrs. H. P. Williams and child, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Davidson, Misses C. Bostwick, N. M. Cheney and G. S. Wood, Major C. J. Cranz, Messrs. Alex. Muller, McKinnell, F. J. Bostwick, W. E. Lowther, Harrington, J. Nicol, D. Peacock and J. T. Smith.
 Per *Kawachi Maru*, from Singapore, Messrs. Mellor and Kashiwaboer and Mrs. Ito.
 Per *Diamante*, from Manila, Messrs. Sellers, Patindin, B. J. Schinitz, T. J. Smith and R. O. Halley.
 Per *Lai Sang*, from Calcutta, Mrs. Allan and Mr. Suisvosky.
 Per *Haitan*, from Swatow, Dr. Ethel Tribe, Captain Farrow.
 Per *Esmeralda*, from Manila, Mrs. Jatero, Miss Knight, Messrs. Maniere and N. Ewens.
 Per *Sungkiang*, from Manila, Messrs. Thompson, Lane, W. Huggin, L. Huggin and Safkins.
 Per *Konig Albert*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. Nobbs; from Kobe, Messrs. Ullrich, Rotmann and Kumwolin; from Nagasaki, Messrs. Billrough and Alexander; from Shang-

hai, Mrs. Sanna, Mrs. Alvas, Messrs. Bell, Siepen, Tak, Harvey, Boyan, de Sht, de Costa and de Souza.
 Per *Stentor*, from Liverpool, &c., Captain Kenneth.
 Per *Tingsang*, from Shanghai, &c., Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Drake and Miss Ferguson.
 Per *Sullberg*, from Haiphong, Mr. Bertrand.
 Per *Chingtu*, from Sydney, &c., Dr. and Mrs. Lowson and Dr. Spratting, U.S.N.
 Per *Hongmoh*, from Singapore, Capt. Robertson.
 Per *Kong Peng*, from Bangkok, Mr. Wassard.
 Per *Woosung*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Williamson.
 Per *Jata*, for Hongkong, from Foochow, Miss D'Almeida; for London, from Shanghai, Mrs. Dumfries and two infants.
 Per *Nanchang* from Tientsin, &c., Lieut. Bingham and 150 men of the Hongkong Regiment.

DEPARTED.

Per *Empress of China*, for Hongkong, from Vancouver, Mrs. L. J. Lambert, Mrs. J. H. Scrivener, Mr. and Mrs. A. Hancock, Miss Hancock, Major and Mrs. Wynne and child, Miss A. B. Reed, Lieuts. Wahl, Longton and Gregory, Messrs. A. T. Hall, F. C. F. Hayhurst, E. E. White, W. A. Thacher, E. T. Payne and R. Toovey; from Yokohama, Rev. and Mrs. Chalk, Mr. and Mrs. Maitland and Mr. F. Henderson; from Kobe, Mrs. B. Wood, Mrs. Whitman, Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Spofford, Mr. and Mrs. Kempson, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Yagen, Mr. and Mrs. Claypool, Mr. and Mrs. Stimson, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Solomon, Mr. and Mrs. Muirhead, Misses (2) Nories, Messrs. S. F. Whitman, W. B. Thom, C. H. Morrison and H. A. Lemcke; from Shanghai, Mrs. M. Stanleigh, Mr. and Mrs. Moore and child, Messrs. R. N. Wheatley, C. E. Roach, T. H. Harjes, Jr., N. T. Saunders and Schwartz.
 Per *Yawata Maru*, for Japan, Mr. and Mrs. Dancy, Mrs. Churra, Mrs. Sada, Misses Yeoper and Harada.
 Per *Chusan*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Lieut. Niven, H.K.S.B.A., Miss Morgan and Mr. Blake and son; for Colombo, Lieut. Hamilton, R.I.M., for Bombay, Messrs. C. Ockell and C. J. Bhessania; for Port Said, Mrs. M. Kerfoot and Mr. King H. Knox; for Brindisi, Mrs. A. M. Tuckett Lowry, Mr. and Mrs. Chaffee, Misses Alice M. Chaffee and Chiffon Chaffee, Master Frederick Chaffee, Misses Casson and Charlotte C. Gibson, Major J. O. Hutchinson, Messrs. Edward von Mayer, W. Watling and J. S. Smith; for Marseilles, Mrs. S. T. Stephens, Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Wells, Messrs. C. H. Shoemaker and S. Gelan; for London, Sergt.-Major and Mrs. Wiseman and child, Major F. H. Goddard, Misses S. M. Bartow, F. N. Thallon and Sinclair; from Shanghai, for Bombay, Mr. R. Johnson; for Marseilles, Dr. and Mrs. Morley and infant, Miss Bell and Mr. Miles; for London, Lieut.-Comdr. Watson, R.N.; from Yokohama, for London, Mr. and Mrs. Lobintz, Misses Thornton and Pearson and Mr. G. Pearson.
 Per *Bengal*, for Shanghai, from Hongkong, Mrs. S. M. M., Messrs. C. D. Wilkinson, B. and H. from Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. S. Euzdars, from Marseilles, Lieut.-Comdr. Wyndham Forbes, Messrs. Rattberg and Biddell and son; from London, Mr. F. O.
 Per *Loongsang*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. C. Augustin and three children and Mr. Ullmann.
 Per *Konig Albert*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Hurst, Rev. W. E. Lowther, Messrs. J. W. Norton, H. Norton, Neckerson, James A. Blair, E. Sands, J. Archibald, F. Beckerle, C. Westerbuerger, F. Johnson, A. B. Mackintosh, John W. Taylor, C. C. Jones, E. S. Pugh, Krovickoff and C. White; for Colombo, Messrs. B. Lathrop, D. J. Fairchild, L. Huggins, W. Huggins, and Lieut. Maxwell; for Genoa, Messrs. A. H. F. Warran and M. F. Langer; for London, Mrs. Mathews, Hon. and Mrs. Cecil Dawson, Miss Nacoli, Messrs. James Ward and Richardson; for Bremen, Messrs. Munk and Wm. Hansen.

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